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Milwaukee 10, Wisc. Apr. 59

Precision SHOOTING

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AIRBOURNE SMALLBORE SHOOTERS
(Story on page 2)

a magazine for Shooters by Shooters

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SHOOTING GAMES

It probably can be stated without contradiction that more people participate in gallery shooting with .22 caliber rimfire rifles than in any other type of organized target shooting with rifles, and perhaps with any other weapon. There are several sound and sensible reasons for this popularity.

Ranges are in general conveniently located within centers of population, in villages or cities. The general time for shooting (evenings) is natural recreation time for working people. In a large part of the United States, indoor gallery shooting is the only practical type of target shooting possible during several months of every year. Individual shooting capability better balances differences in equipment than is the case in several types of specialized outdoor target competition. Since for a large portion of gallery rifle shooting participants the shooting is more in the nature of recreation than of a highly competitive hassle, a comfortable social atmosphere is prevalent, both in local club activities and in league or inter-club meetings. The accent on team shooting in gallery tends to add to sociability. Shooting .22 caliber weapons at short range on a conveniently located range at a convenient time is a natural setting for beginners to learn the fundamentals of accurate shooting with either rifle or handgun.

Many gallery rifle shooters participate very little, if at all, in other types of organized target shooting. But to probably a majority of shooters the gallery shooting, in addition to being an interesting competitive game in itself, provides the opportunity for keeping in condition during a season when outdoor shooting is impractical. In fact, it may provide the outdoor shooter the opportunity to improve his shooting in general.

Shooting slow fire in gallery with scope sights provides the high-power and service rifleman the opportunity to improve his holding and aiming ability which can pay off in better scores in the outdoor high-power competitive game. Off-season gallery shooting keeps the outdoor smallbore rifleman in physical condition and training for his specialized and highly competitive outdoor shooting. Gallery position shooting provides the International type free rifle shooter the opportunity for year-around continuous training and practice which is so essential for the demanding and difficult ISU competitive game. Even the hunter-rifleman will find that the good shooting habits absorbed on the gallery rifle range will pay off in better shooting in the field. Most important to all are the social contacts with congenial people having a common interest in sport shooting.

As this writer looks into the crystal ball, it appears that gallery rifle shooting has a potential for great growth and expansion. An ever increasing population with resulting expansion of urban centers makes it increasingly difficult to find or keep conveniently located outdoor range sites. The same factors make it even more difficult for casual, informal plinker shooters to find convenient and safe places where they may be allowed to shoot. In its present form, and considering the convenience of both range location and the evening shooting time, more people should be attracted to do more gallery shooting. The promotion of more "light rifle" gallery shooting by wide-awake, progressive local shooting clubs should draw many presently informal plinker shooters into an organized shooting game and add to the growth of gallery shooting with .22 caliber rimfire weapons.

Some clubs presently conduct a gallery shooting program throughout the year. In our more concentrated population areas this will no doubt become more common and gallery shooting may b expected to more generally become an all-year instead of just a Winter shooting game.

It is much talked of and somewhat widely publicized that outdoor smallbore prone shooting is a "sick game." Perhaps it is. But if that be the case, it is this writer's opinion that it is as much a case of being "talked into the grave" as it is of naturally gravitating in that direction. It is also this writer's observation that too many of those who try to talk this game into the grave are people who know very little about it from personal experience. But too many smallbore riflemen themselves are, perhaps unwittingly, "talking down" their own game, and that is hardly excusable. Much of this negative attitude toward the outdoor smallbore prone game probably stems from observing the participation in formal tournament competition, without considering the total number of people who do participate in local club and league smallbore programs but participate in few formal tournaments, if any. One should look at the over-all condition of the outdoor prone smallbore game before making preparations for burying it.

It is quite true that well within the memory of us who are middle-aged or older that outdoor prone smallbore shooting has grown from a simple, subcaliber, semi-military shooting game, in the beginning a so-called "poor man's shooting game," into a specialized, demanding but challenging shooting game, which at tournament competition level requires both superior equipment and shooter performance.

Considering this outdoor prone smallbore game in a positive attitude there are a number of credit factors in its favor. The low power and mild report of the .22 caliber rimfire cartridge permits location of safe ranges in relatively populous areas, thus permitting convenient opportunity for outdoor shooting under challenging conditions of varying weather. While ranges of size and appointments demanded for present day tournament shooting are expensive to build and maintain, smaller, safe and satisfactory club ranges may be relatively inexpensive. The home club range that this writer shoots on is really primitive but the challenge and pleasure from accurate shooting is as much present as on some "plush" layout.

While rifles demanded (and needed) by top tournament shooters are expensive in first cost, the better rifles, sights and accessories used in gallery shooting, in top condition, will give creditable performance at the 50 to 100 yards outdoor ranges. While top grade match ammunition in quantities used by those who compete in many tournaments is a considerable expense item, it is not an unbearable expense when used in the normal quantities needed for local club and league matches.

Evening smallbore shooting on lighted outdoor ranges is popular where it is available. There are many times the number of shooters participating regularly in the Mid-Night and Moon-Lite leagues program in Connecticut than compete in tournaments held in that state. We believe a similar situation exists in the program conducted by the North Reading Rifle Club in Massachusetts, and probably in other places. A lighted range, entirely suitable for good shooting but without any frills, need not be unbearably expensive. Evening shooting fits into the summer outdoor recreation program in northern areas, leaving weekends free for other activities.

Outdoor prone smallbore rifle shooting may be (?) a sick game, but it is not incurable. However, we'll need to quit taking the easy course of "talking it into its grave" and do some constructive thinking and acting to assist it to convalescence and eventual good health and vigorous activity. The game is worth doing just that for.

PHT

AIR-BOURNE SMALLBORE RIFLEMEN

Dear Phil:

The photo (Cover) shows 8 members of the Palmetto Rifle Club on their way home from the Southeastern Regionals at Winter Haven, Florida. The attendance of Palmetto riflemen at shoots around the southeast has increased the line-up of many a shoot by these enthusiastic shooters who travel in their own plane to far-away tournaments.

I know of no other shooting club that can boast of this means of mass transportation for "belly floppers" and we are a little vain in thinking that perhaps some of the other shooters might perk up in interest if they knew about it through the Precision SHOOTING.

From left to right the fellows are:

Marty Washington, high ranking Junior in the Southeast, who fired 3162-180x to place fifth in the aggregate and who is a contender for a place on the Junior Team going to the World Championships at Moscow.

Bill Toursch, Senior, who accompanies his young son shown in center background.

Hal Kramer, secretary of the Palmetto Rifle Club.

Dr. F. P. Archer, winner of the Southeastern Regional with a 3178-190x and Florida State Champion, who will defend his title this coming Fall for the third time.

Col. Jack Bickley, Vice President of the Palmetto Rifle Club, who fired a 3162-169x for 7th place in the aggregate.

Billy Toursch, 13 year old hot shot who won the Sharpshooter aggregate with a 3159-153x. This lad has been giving the experts and masters in this area the trembles for the past year and is one to be watched.

Clement L. Theed, NRA Director, sponsor of the Flamingo and Sawgrass matches, Chairman of the Board, Palmetto Rifle Club.

Michael Morse, pilot of the plane, Executive Officer of the Palmetto Rifle Club, President of the Florida Rifle Association, who placed third in the aggregate with a 3168-164x.

I think your proposed new format will be very much appreciated by many shooters who look to your magazine as a real source of pure shooting news, and with folks like Sam Bond on The Board of Precision SHOOTING, I am certain you will find enthusiastic reception throughout the nation.

Sincerely yours,
Michael J. "Mike" Morse

1958 UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL RIFLE AND PISTOL TEAMS

U. S. International Rifle and Pistol Team members selected after final team tryouts at Ft. Benning, Ga., are announced as follows:

Free Pistol slow fire team:—SFC Lincoln H. Nelson USA, M/Sgt. Roy Sutherland USA, CWO Offutt Pinion USN, 1st Lt. David Miller USA, and SFC William Blankenship USA.

Rapid Fire pistol team:—Capt. William M. McMillan USMC, M/Sgt. Huelet L. Benner USA, 1st Lt. David Miller USA, SFC Aubrey Smith USA.

50 Meter rifle team:—1st Lt. Daniel B. Puckel USA, 1st Lt. Verle Wright USA, 1st Lt. John Herr USA, 2nd Lt. James A. Eberwine USA, Gordon P. Taras, civilian, Pebble Beach, Calif.

300 Meter rifle team:—1st Lt. Daniel Puckel, 1st Lt. Verle F. Wright, 1st Lt. James S. Carter USA, S/Sgt. E. D. Duncan USMC, T/Sgt. J. E. Hill USMC. To fill out the allowed number for the rifle teams are: SP2 Justus Allen USA, Cpl. William Rabenstein USA, Lt. Frank Briggs USMC.

Running Deer rifle team:—1st Lt. Joe A. Deckert USA, 1st Lt. Richard D. Wentworth USA, civilians James F. Davis, Falls Church, Va. and Harry A. Lucker, El Paso, Texas.

The selected teams have an intensive training program to July 14th when they are scheduled to leave for Europe where they will get further competitive toughening before the World Championship competitions at Moscow in August.

Scores of selected team members in the final tryouts were of world competition caliber. The average course score of the three top slow fire pistol team members for four times over the 60 shot course was 545 and all three fired single course scores approaching the present record of 559. On the rapid fire pistol team, Capt. McMillan averaged 589 X 600 for the four times over the course with a single course high of 594, while Sgt. Benner averaged 586 with a course high of 593.

On the 50 meter rifle team, Lt. Puckel averaged 1146.75 for the four times over the three position course, and Lt. Wright averaged 1140.25.

PHT

SAD NEWS: The address label on the June issue of P. S. mailed to E. B. Sunderhaus, Creston, Ohio, was returned with P. O. Form 3579 with the simple but sad notation, "Deceased."

"Benny," as this genial old Ohio gunsmith was known to his host of friends, was a "regular" on Commercial Row at Camp Perry for many years and was designer and maker of the BENNY actions for smallbore target rifles. "Benny" was a rifle craftsman, a kindly gentleman and a staunch friend who will be sorely missed by the rifle clan.

PHT

Twenty-fourth Annual

MAINE STATE SMALLBORE RIFLE TOURNAMENT

NRA registered State Championship
Full one day program including team and offhand matches.
For programs, write: Paul Winslow, Norridgewock, Maine

The quartet of St. Paul shooters who organized the unique Minnesota high power rifle match. Left to right are Fred W. Hallberg, George Dyball, Dr. Ken Erickson and John Colombo.

THE TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT UNUSUAL MATCH IN MINNESOTA

Three years ago one of the finest high-power rifle tournaments ever seen in these parts reared its head, and the attendance of some 80 strong attesting the success in the best known way to the sponsor. The next year saw the program strengthened even more by the renovation and repair of the 1000 yard equipment, so that 1957 saw the first 1000 yard match held in Minnesota for more than 35 years.

These two matches were sponsored by a group of interested Army officers who happened to be stationed in various units in Minnesota, thus the official title of this match was "Annual Minnesota Military District Match." This year, unhappily, the tour of duty of these men ended and with their transfer to other stations it at first appeared that this match would go by the boards.

The match program was fired over a period of two days, Saturday and Sunday, with the 1000 yard match fired on Saturday only, conditions being the same as in the famous Wimbledon Cup Match. Sunday saw the firing of the National Match Course.

Since the work and expense of renovating the 1000 yard range had been accomplished, and since precedence had been established with the adjutant general's office in securing the use of the Camp Ripley Range, the groundwork had been laid for three shooters from St. Paul to go ahead with the match for this year.

It was decided that, time being at a premium, the entire match and preparation be simplified as much as possible. With some fear and trepidation the following ideas were adopted: The competitors would pull targets and score, as well as enter the scores on the main scoreboard. Competitors would not be classified, the match would not therefore be registered with the NRA. There would be no prizes, but the entry fee for the whole works would be only $1.00. We

(Continued on Page Four)

DAMARISCOTTA LABOR DAY RE-ENTRY SHOOT

DAMARISCOTTA, ME. — AUG. 31 - SEPT. 1

Two days for renewing acquaintances, eating lobster and shooting for a Rem. 244 and 29 other valuable prizes totalling over $700.00.
22 cal. rimfire 100 yd. any sight match with 4 classes plus 100 yd. 22 cal. offhand match and 200 yd. any rifle any sight match. All re-entry.

For a program around August 1st write

M. L. TILTON, Sec.
LINCOLN COUNTY RIFLE CLUB
JEFFERSON, MAINE

The Tournament Circuit

(Continued from Page Three)

also insisted that all entry fees be mailed at least two weeks before the match, so that squadding could be arranged well in advance.

All competitors were put in one of four relays, so that while the first fired, the second scored, the third was loafing, and the fourth would be in the pits pulling targets. Each shooter was assigned a target number for the day, so that he fired, scored and pulled that target, thus easing the job of locating missing culprits.

This all eliminated about 90% of the sheer drudgery of running a match and, what was more important, enabled a large group to compete who would ordinarily be forced to work the match. The old question of whether or not shooters are medal hungry was quite well answered by the tremendous number of entries, 101, making this the largest match ever held in the state.

The 1000 yard match was fired under conditions that were far from ideal, although there at least was no rain. Oliver Nygaard from Grand Forks, N. D., shot a 99-8V to win. Myrtle Shumway, Superior, Wis., (everyone's favorite shooter) was second with a 98-12V. Ozzie Helseth 97-12V, Joe Bantel 97-8V and Ken Erickson 97-7V completed the top five shooters. Nygaard used an Imp. .300 H&H with 80 grs. 4831; Mrs. Shumway used a standard .300 H&H with 70 grs. 4831; and Helseth fired a Mashburn .300 Magnum with 75 grs. of 4350.

The National Match Course began with the firing of 10 shots military standing, won by Ozzie Helseth with 49-3V; the sitting rapid was won by Ken Erickson with 50-8V, the prone rapid by Hank Woltman with 50-5V, and Helseth won the 600 yd. with a 100-18V. This latter score deserves some closer attention; it was fired with some old Western Super-Match loaded with ball powder—shades of F. W. Hallberg! The NMC Aggregate was captured by Ken Erickson of St. Paul with a 246-26V, who also won the All-Match aggregate with 343-33V. The next nine ranking shooters in the NMC Agg. were: O. C. Helseth 255-31V, James Dann 242-18V, Ralph Hubert 241-18V, John A. Colombo 239-23V, Henry Woltman 238-21V, Richard Flamang 238-15V, Edmund Jubala 237-18V, Ted Mills 236-20V, and Oliver Nygaard 234-23.

Dr. K. C. Erickson

WASHINGTON STATE "GOVERNOR'S 20" ALL-AROUND CHAMPIONSHIP

For the past eight years the All-Around, fired at Wenatchee in connection with the Washington State Rifle & Pistol Association annual convention, has improved each year. June 7-8, 1958, the North Central Rifle & Pistol Club and the Wenatchee Rifle Club conducted an oversize smallbore shoot Saturday, a five match hi-power shoot on Sunday, and on both days a 3-gun 2700 pistol aggregate. The big deal, of course, was the Governor's 20 Championship, with winners being determined by their ranking in all three arms—smallbore, hi-power and pistol. Chet Paulson, who ranked 3rd, 9th and 5th in these, ended up as All-Around Champion. Raymond Wheeler, another Tacoma shooter, took the smallbore agg with 1591-100x. Grant Ackerland, Seattle, fired 343-29 for top hi-power honors. National Champ Gertrude Backstrom, of Hoquiam, took the pistol agg. with 2568-54x. A total of 133 shooters fired throughout the two days.

All smallbore matches were fired in one relay, with a full target crew to staple and frame the targets—none of this do-it-yourself target framing by competitors. Each shooter had a single firing point, with no moving around from match to match. Sure—it was tougher for wind down around target No. 1, but there were no beefs. Competitors liked the idea of not having to move equipment after every match.

Marlene Bellinger won the first two matches; 20 at 50 yds., any with 200-18 and 40 at 50 yds., any, four positions with 389-16. Karl Kepp won the 20 at 100 yds., any with 199-12 and the 40 at 50 meters, any, with 397-26. Wheeler won the two iron sight matches; the 50 yd. with 50 yd. with 400-26 and the 100 yd. with 395-25x, and was no lower than 3rd in any match.

On Sunday the 200 and 300 yard hi-power shooting was on the Wenatchee Rifle Club range, while the pistol and the 600 yd. hi-power was on the North Central Club range. The hi-power shooters were divided into two squads; squad "A" firing 200 and 300 yds. in the morning and 600 yds. in the afternoon, while squad "B" fired 600 in the morning and 200-300 in the afternoon. Following Ackerland in the agg. were; Marlene Bellinger 337-28V, Robert Rumsey (Ex) 335-25, Lloyd Smoot 335-31 and S. G. Borjesson 334-31.

Gertrude Backstrom won the .22 pistol agg. (873), the .45 agg. (852) and was runner-up in center fire. John Doran won the center fire agg. (852) and was runner-up in the .45 agg. (851) and the grand agg. with 2561.

The State Association committee meetings, banquet and convention business meeting followed the shooting on Saturday.

Bill Harris

50 METER FREE RIFLE AT MURRYSVILLE, PA.

Barry Trew became the Franklin Twp Champ for the second year in a row as he fired a 1099-14x in conditions that were far from easy. Using his thumbhole stocked 54 HB he also shot high kneeling for the match, 372-6. The bluing on the barrel of this rifle is worn so thin that it tends to rust very easily, but no one wants to disturb the winning combination of shooter and rifle by dismantling the gun to reblue it.

Bob Moore was close behind with a 1095-15 to take second place. His 385-10 prone was high for this stage and will indicate what a good score was for the target and prevailing conditions. Bill Roos trailed Moore by a single point. His 350-2 standing was top score in that stage.

Elmer Keene and Fred Roeding took the class "B" slots with 1016-3 and 1008-5 respectively. A year's subscription to Precision SHOOTING goes to all these award winners.

Weather was unsettled for both days of the match with the firing suspended during the second day to allow a heavy thunder shower to pass overhead. The enclosed and protected firing points proved their worth as shooters and equipment remained dry during the heavy rain.

A $2.00 entry fee was charged for the match to keep the cost reasonable and yet cover operating expenses. At this price elaborate and expensive prizes are ruled out—the match is for the sport of shooting and not what can be won.

Targets were framed for stages of 20 shots with a 50 minute time limit. This is shorter than the ISU limits but no one seemed to be crowded for time. There appeared to be plenty of time to wait out the gusts even during the windier portions of the match.

Bill Funk

CONNECTICUT "PRESIDENT'S MATCH"

A relatively small entry of 47 competed in the annual President's Match (smallbore rifle) on the Blue Trail Range, June 1st. Windy conditions made scores much lower than in the May match on this same range—the May match conditions and scores were better than normal for the range.

John Crowley won the aggregate for the third successive year with a 1581-96 beating Walter Tomsen's 1581-79. Junior girl Marj. Firrantello was 3rd with 1575-81 and Lt. C. Gogulski, whose home is in Grand Rapids, Mich., 4th with 1574-83.

Lt. Gogulski won the Harry Anthony Match—20 shots on 100 yd. metric target with any sights, with 197-12 over Crowley's 197-8 and Tomsen's 197-6. Frank Eichler fired the only possible (400-26) to win the any sight Dewar. Ed Lane Creedmored Tomsen on tie 396-20 scores to take the metallic Dewar. Crowley's winning 394-21 in the 100 yds. any beat B class winner B. M. Phelps, Sr. by a single X. Crowley finished the day by winning the 50 meter any with a 397-27—class B winner Sgt. J. Carten's 396-27 being 2nd and D class winner Tom Efford's 395-23 being 3rd high overall.

MAINE STATE PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fifty-two handgunners battled winds reaching gale velocities in the annual Maine State Pistol Championships, fired at Blue Hill, June 7th and 8th. Coast Guardsman GM2 Erwin F. Chase made a decisive win with his 2587. Mass. State Police Capt. Julian Zuk was runner-up with 2539 and Cpl. Alvin Collins was 3rd with 2485. Chase won the .45 agg. with 878 over Zuk's 837 and the .22 agg. with 865 over Zuk's 855. Zuk won the center fire agg. with 847 over Chase's 843. Chase is a native of Rockland, Maine.

Trooper John H. Pinkham, Maine State Police won the resident champion's trophy and the Hi-Standard Supermatic donated by Horace Weatherbee, a Maine State R & P Ass'n Life Member.

The Mass. State Police team won both team matches, while Capt. Zuk and Cpl. Collins won both two-man team matches.

LORAIN, OHIO PISTOL MATCH

The annual Lorain Rifle & Pistol Club (Ohio) outdoor pistol tournament, June 7-8, was a battle between two top Ohio shooters with the underdog at start battling gamely to finally emerge on top for the win. The battlers—Jerry C. Neal, Mentor On The Lake, and George H. Tulk, Jr., North Ridgeville—they were even registered as competitors No. 5 and No. 6.

The order of matches was arranged a bit different than usual. A Camp Perry Course match with each gun served as a warm-up with each gun but did not count in the aggregate. The 20 shot slow, timed and rapid fire matches were shot with .45, center fire and .22 in that order. Winding up the program were National Match course matches with .22, center fire and .45 in that order.

Neal posted a 288 to Tulk's 283 in the .45 Camp Perry warmup, but when

they got down to serious business Tulk shot a 176 slow fire and Neal a 155. In the timed fire match Tulk went further ahead with his 194 to Neal's 189, but Neal gained back 2 points rapid fire with his 187 to Tulk's 185. After three .45 matches Tulk led Neal by 24 points. Expert Donald Manly of Lockbourne won the slow fire with 180, beating John Bauman of Dayton by an X, and the rapid fire by Creedmoring Bauman, both with 188 4X scores. Tulk won the timed fire with a 194.

For the 20 shot center fire matches Neal scored 180-193-183 to gain one point but still 23 points behind Tulk who scored 175-191-189. James M. Wattleworth, Salem, won the slow fire with 181 and rapid fire with 193, while F. W. Thompson (Exp), Rochester, Pa., won the timed fire with 196.

In the 20 shot .22 matches Neal started to really gain on Tulk, scoring 190-199-197 to Tulk's 174-197-198. Neal won the slow and timed fire and Tulk the rapid fire. Tulk was then leading Neal by only 6 points.

Neal won the .22 NMC event with a 290 to go 5 points ahead of Tulk who fired a 279. Tulk came right back to win the center fire NMC with 280 over Neal's 3rd place 277 and gain back 3 points. In the final match—.45 NMC—with the pressure fully on, Neal scored 281 to win the match and aggregate with 2521, while Tulk was match runner-up with 279 and agg. runner-up with 2517. Bauman was 3rd in the grand agg. with 2493. Manly was high expert and 4th over-all with 2492.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC SMALLBORE REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Fifty two competitors (32 civilian and 19 active military) battled it out for the Middle Atlantic Smallbore Regional Championship over Memorial Day weekend at Wilmington, Delaware in a match sponsored by the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. Competitors were blessed with an almost cloudless sky and pleasant temperatures, but battled a wind which ranged from a gentle breeze early Saturday to more than 30 miles per hour on Sunday afternoon.

The iron sight aggregate fired on Saturday was won by Lewis M. Hazelton of Manhasset, N. Y. with 1593-107x. Close on his heels were Hugh J. Swarts with 1593-91x and Laurence F. Moore with 1592-100x. On Sunday in the any-sight matches Moore shot a 1593-110x, three points more than high Master Hazelton. In the grand aggregate Moore's steady shooting paid off for a winning 3185-210x, two points ahead of Hazelton who was high Master.

The team matches were fired on the ISU 300 meter target reduced for 100 yards. Larry Moore and Don Davis won the iron sight match with 771-26x and repeated on Sunday in the any sight match with 383-13 (½ course). The new, more difficult target provoked much favorable comment from the shooters who generally felt it made a more interesting match.

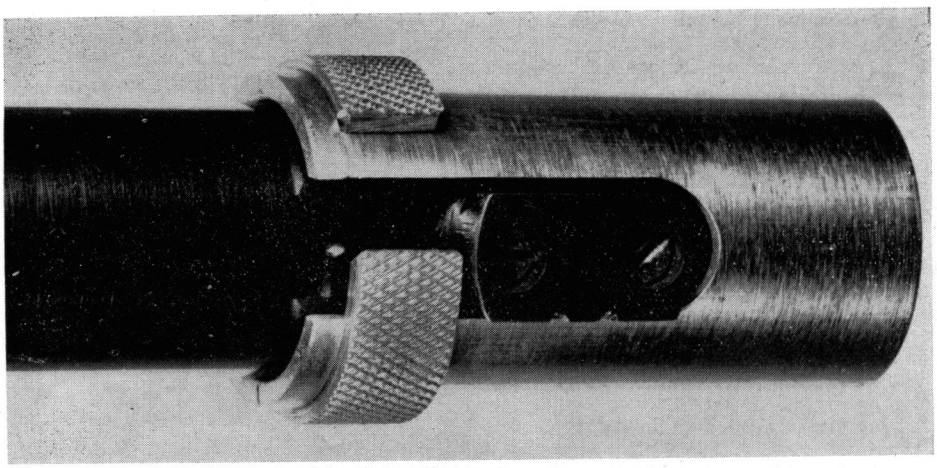
Don Hallada

NORTH DAKOTA PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Eugene Zimmer, Jr. of Dickinson, N. D., fired a grand aggregate 1623 of a possible 1800 to win the 1958 State Pistol Championship in the tournament at Cando, June 22, with near ideal weather conditions. All shooting was from the 25 yard line.

The 18 year old Champion beat his father, who was second with 1598, and dethroned the veteran John Aitken of Overly, who placed 3rd with 1591. The new Champ won the .22 slow fire (186) and the .22 agg. with 563. He won all the center fire matches for an agg. of 549, and won the .45 rapid fire.

D. M. Doig of Brandon, Manitoba, won both the .22 timed and rapid matches and was 2nd in the .22 aggregate. The tournament served as a try-out for selecting a State Team to compete in the National Matches at Camp Perry.



False muzzle cleaning rod guide

FALSE MUZZLE CLEANING ROD GUIDE

Dear Phil:

Recently had Lee Swem put a new pipe on my Limey bean-blower and make a false muzzle cleaning rod guide, as shown by the attached photo.

Somebody (maybe it was Colonel Whelen) once said that as much or more damage is caused by cleaning from the hind end as from the front end and since whacking a half inch off the front end is easier and cheaper than re-chambering, I have always cleaned from the front. Anway, I use a high comb and couldn't clean from the hind end if I wanted to.

Cleaning from the muzzle is sure to bell it, no matter how carefully it is done or what kind of rod is used, and I think that a false muzzle is the only answer. Mine is made with the hole a few thousandths bigger than groove diameter and beveled at the front end so the patch will go in without rubbing the grease off. Almost anybody but me could make one and save themselves the trouble of cutting off a slice of muzzle every couple of years.

As very few barrles are of the same measurement it would be necessary to give Swem a fairly accurate measurement from the muzzle back to the rear of the sight base, both of barrel diameter and distance from muzzle to rear of sight base, when ordering a false muzzle for a barrel not fitted by him (Lee A. Swem, 8920 S. E. Woodstock, Portland 66, Oregon).

L. C. Davis
"World Champion Indoor Wind Doper"

MAINE STATE HI-POWER RIFLE TOURNAMENT

A small entry of 33 shot in a brawling wind on the Lincoln County Rifle Club range in Damariscotta, June 15, to determine the 1958 State Hi-Power Rifle Champion and select a State Team for the National Matches. Some excellent scores were fired under difficult conditions. All shooting was at 200 yards.

Carl Morrison of Bangor is the 1958 State Champ, winning the prone slow fire with 50-9V, sitting rapid fire with 50-5V, 2nd in prone rapid (200 yds.) with 49-5V and the winning grand agg. of 240-27V. O. Milton Haga, S. Brewer, did not make the top three in any match but finished as agg. runner-up with 239-18V. Emery Slipp of Anson won the standing match with a 46-2V, was runner-up in the prone slow fire with 50-8V and third in the agg. with 237-22V. Irving Merry of No. Edgecomb won the slow fire sitting match with 50-5V.

CONNECTICUT BIG BORE RIFLE LEAGUE

Three hundred eighty five individuals fired on 37 teams at the June 8th Conn. Big Bore Rifle League match on Blue Trail Range.

Magnum won the team match with 603 over 601 for Tri-Club and 600 for Quinnipiac of New Haven. In the team rankings at the end of this match it is Tri-Club, Quinnipiac and Magnum.

M. Kidder of Bridgeport fired high individual score of 124, getting 25 possibles prone, sitting and kneeling and a 49 for the 10 shots standing. Don Hillery of Springfield Sportsmen (Mass.) fired a possible 50 standing but dropped points in all the "easy" positions for a 120 total.

A CONVENIENTLY AVAILABLE BEDDING MATERIAL

Dear Phil:

I have come across something that may be of interest to many readers of Precision SHOOTING. At least I think it's worth passing along.

About a week ago I was glass bedding one of my rifles and ran out of the stuff before the job was completed. I had heard some vague rumors to the effect that the plastic fillers used by automobile body shops was essentially the same as glass bedding compounds and that it might work for the same purpose. I had never heard of anyone actually using the plastic filler as a bedding compound so I decided to give it a try.

I consulted a friend at a local body shop and he suggested I try a product sold under the name of "Plastik Autobody Filler." This stuff looks like gray putty and is prepared by mixing in a clear liquid Actuator that comes in a separate tube. I was told at the body shop that the stuff was used to fill holes in fenders etc. and that it would set up hard in about one hour. I prevailed on my friend to donate some of the filler and hardening liquid to the cause and I proceeded to try it out, using a junk Springfield receiver and a discarded Springfield stock. The stock was cut away in the places to be bedded, the receiver given a thin coat of chassis grease, the filler mixed and applied, and the re-

(Continued on Page Eight)

CASE HISTORY—17 CALIBER
By Richard R. Golze

A distinguishing feature of the true rifleman is that he is never completely satisfied with the products commercially available. The firearms industry must produce a line of arms that appeal to the mass market if they wish to realize a profit on their capital investment. There is, therefore, a fairly comprehensive coverage of the field which permits a selection of "off-the-shelf" calibers to permit target practice and hunting from the smallest to the largest game.

It will be noted that in recent years the industry has entered into a sales promotion activity to stimulate sales by the introduction of new cartridges which are almost identical to the long-established lines. Examples of this are the .244 Remington—.257 Roberts, .35 Remington—.358 Winchester, .280 Remington—.270 Winchester, etc. This fills a sales promotion requirement in the popular middle range. The .458 Winchester meets the energy specifications of most shooters which fills out the list on the top end, but how about the great mass of shooters who dwell in urban areas who cannot travel to unrestricted areas for weekend shooting at vermin?

There is a definite requirement for a flat-shooting, slight recoil, low report, cartridge that can be handled in a short action. Farmers in the vicinity of urban areas seem to most object to noise. They also raise an eye of caution when they see a rifleman produce a rifle built on a Mauser or Springfield action, even though it is for a .22 caliber, center-fire cartridge. Some farmers have openly stated that it must be dangerous to their livestock because it is so large; and, besides, they see the same type of rifle when they go deer hunting. They generally permit a fellow with a .22 rimfire or a .22 Hornet on their property, but restrict all other calibers. The case is, therefore, established for the .17 caliber rifle.

HISTORY

.17 caliber rifles have been in existence for a long time. The compressed air and CO2 operated arms have enjoyed a reasonable market. Rifles using gunpowder have a pre-World War II history. Mr. P. O. Ackley of Murray, Utah, has long been a pioneer in this field. He was the sole source of barrels until recent years. Work has been done in different areas of the United States and Canada with this caliber. The most popular forms have been based on the necked-down version of the .22K Hornet, 218 Bee, R2 Lovell, and the .222 Remington.

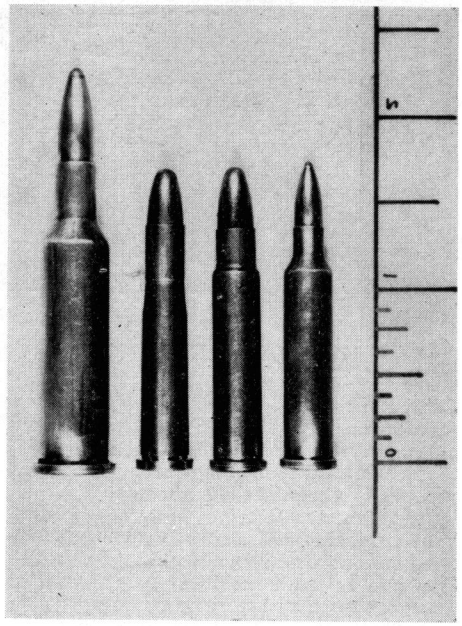
REQUIREMENTS

The rifle should have high velocity to permit humane kills, as well as to destroy the bullet on impact with soil or twigs to prevent ricocheting. The accuracy should be excellent to 150 yards and very good to 225. The cases should be short and small to permit usage of short, small, medium pressure actions.

RESULTS

The author was stimulated to action by Mr. Rodger Brummitt, gunsmith of Pontiac, Michigan. Three barrel blanks were obtained from Mr. Ackley. Two of the barrels were fitted to the small BSA Martini actions that were available from Australian surplus and distributed by a West Coast source. The third barrel was fitted to a German Hein drop block action with double set triggers.

The BSA action is the .22 rimfire action that was produced in a center fire form for an Australian cartridge similar to the 32-20. The action was, therefore, ideally suited to the .22 Hornet length case. The reformed .22K Hornet case was selected since it bore a family resemblance to the superbly accurate .219 Wasp. The photograph shows the comparison of the .219 Wasp, .22 Hornet, .22K Hornet, and .17 caliber.

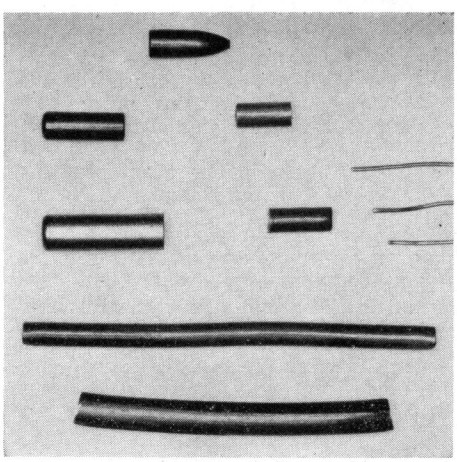


L to R: .219 Donaldson Wasp, Regular 22 Hornet, 22K Hornet, 17 Caliber.

It seems to be agreed that the best accuracy is obtained from a rimmed or belted case. The rimmed form is not ideally suited for magazine feed in bolt action rifle forms; but accuracy, not rapidity of fire, was desired so the rimmed case was selected for the single shot actions.

All rifles were suitably stocked and fitted with 10X Unertl target scopes. Initial cartridges were loaded to .22

	4895	4320
30 gr bullet	12.5	12.5
25 gr bullet	12.8	12.8
23.5 gr. bullet	12.8	12.8



Top—Complete 23 Grain, Hollow Point Bullet. Top Middle—17 Caliber Jacket and Formed Core. Middle—.22 Caliber Jacket, Cut Core and Extruded Surplus Lead. Lower Middle—17 Caliber Core Wire Formed from 22 Caliber Wire. Lower—22 Caliber Core Wire.

Hornet data using 20 and 25 grain Sisk bullets and 25 grain Barnes bullets with 4227 and 2400 powders. High pressure, blown primers, and very poor accuracy resulted with these loads. The solution was a slower-burning powder, such as 4895 and Western Ball.

Accuracy was mediocre to poor with these powders, although the pressures were in an acceptable range. The thin jacket Sisk bullets upset in the bore with resultant high pressures, while the thick jacket Barnes bullets gave better accuracy with lower pressures because they did not upset. A check revealed the barrels had irregular bores when received, so they were lapped with diamond dust to a uniform diameter, and bullet dies were made to produce oversized bullets. See pictures of bullets made from .22 jackets and wire. A marked improvement in accuracy resulted, but we wanted better results using commercially available components.

The results of Phase I testing were forwarded to Mr. Ackley with a complaint on the quality of the barrels. A most gratifying letter was received from Mr. Ackley. He stated he agreed with our findings and presented an offer of a mutual development program. He would furnish 10 and 12" twist barrels since we felt the 14" twist was too slow to stabilize the longer 25 grain bullets. He suggested a three-groove barrel instead of six as previously furnished. This was logical when one considered the size of the bore with respect to the number of grooves.

Heavy-weight, 26" barrels were provided which were to our highest expectations as a lead slug could be pressed through the bore with a steady, uniform pressure; and the lands and grooves engraved on the slub were without deformation. Both barrels were fitted to a bench rest FN Mauser action. The bolt and extractor were altered to fit the .22 Hornet. Tests were conducted on each barrel using the same loads and the same bullets. The 25 and 30 grain Sisk, 25 Barnes, and 25 and 30 grain Holmes bullets were tested. In addition, some homemade bullets were tried. Several ¼" groups at 100 yards were obtained. The loads that proved to be accurate are as follows:

Ball C	4227	2400	4198
13.1	9.8	9.8	
13.2	10.	10.	9.7
13.2	9.8	9.8	10.
	10.3	10.3	

The Sisk bullets did not perform to our expectations, even though they were of uniform weight and exhibited good manufacturing quality. Most of the bullets did not reach the target, and those that did produced a comet tail. Apparently the exposed lead tip was melting as a result of the velocity, because bullets were made to hit the target when they were hollow pointed. This data was submitted to Mr. Sisk, and he responded with a request for detailed information on our successful homemade bullets, indicating a desire to produce .17 caliber bullets which will give accuracy that is consistent with his line of fine .22 caliber bullets.

CONCLUSIONS

The .17 caliber rifle is moderately sensitive to loading. However, rifles of smalle caliber are more sensitive to loading than larger caliber rifles. It is suggested that the bullet makers produce bullets of the pattern proved most efficient in our tests. Hollow point, soft swedge bullets seem to be the most accurate in the sub bores, as well as in .22 calibers. With good bullets and barrels in properly assembled rifles, very satisfactory performance can be expected. The caliber meets the accuracy requirement. The noise level is about that of a .22K Hornet, or perhaps slightly sharper. It is, however, sufficiently low to meet the requirement of suburban shooting.

The brief field results indicate adequate to superior killing power. The bullets seem to completely expend their energy in the game at a 100-yard distance, instead of passing through and utilizing only part of the energy as in the case of the 220 Swift, 22-250, 222 Remington, etc.

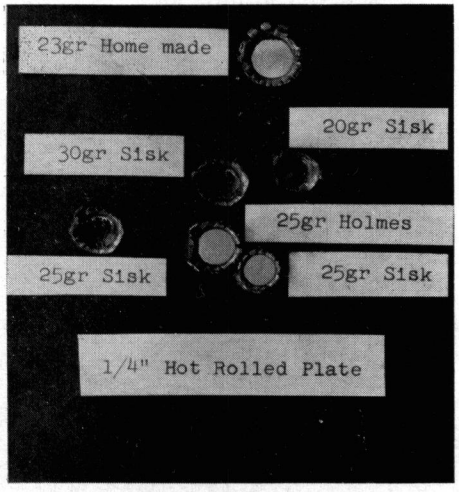
FIELD TEST

One of the .17 caliber rifles was field tested on woodchuck. Two chucks were obtained in spite of poor hunting conditions as a result of tall grass. The first chuck was shot at 40 yards. It was in a sitting position, and a body shot was taken. The bullet entered the center of the chest and came out of the center of the back. A 3/8" diameter exit hole was in the chuck's back, and blood and body fragments were in a conical path behind the chuck. It was an instantaneous kill.

The second chuck was feeding in a field. The head was the only part of the animal visible. A solid hit with a resounding thud as the bullet struck was evidenced. The top of the head was blown off. The distance was 260 paces. The 23 grain, hollow point, homemade bullet was used in each case with a 9½ grain charge of 4227 powder.

The only other kill was on a Robin size blackbird. We were conducting bench rest tests at 100 yards when the bird landed in a branch in a tree just behind the target. There was a puff of feathers as the bird appeared to disintegrate. The only large remnant of the bird was the neck and spine with the wing attached. The breast and intestines were completely removed. The bullet had struck just below the wing butt at the body. Although it is definitely not recommended, several one-shot kills have been reported on deer.

PENETRATION TESTS



Penetration tests were conducted on hot rolled steel plates. A charge of 10.3 grains of 4227 powder was used behind 23 and 25 grain bullets. Complete penetration was obtained in 3/16, ¼, and 5/16" plates. A 3/8" plate was not penetrated, but a 5/16" deep cavity was made. The back of the plate was bulged, indicating near penetration. The Sisk soft point bullet gave the best penetration which is consistent with 219 Wasp test results. The soft lead point seems to provide a lubricant and punches a smaller diameter, deeper hole while hollow point bullets produce larger diameter cavities but less penetration. See photograph. The platter marks were made by Sisk bullets fired from the original six groove barrel. Apparently there was a deep scoring of the jackets which permits disintegration instead of penetration. The successful firing was done with the three-groove barrels.

Smith & Wesson K-22 pip-squeek converted to "Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk" with target stocks, Ace Trigger Shoe and custom holster by S. D. Myres Saddle Co, El Paso, Texas. (Photo courtesy GUNS Magazine)

NEW HARVEY .224 KAY-CHUK WILDCAT VARMINT REVOLVER

By Kent Bellah

Jim Harvey, Lakeville Arms, Inc., Lakeville, Conn. has filled a void in the handgun field with a .22 caliber varmint cartridge. Registered as "Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk," the little hot-shot wildcat drives a standard jacketed bullet at up to 2,200 fps, the highest velocity of any revolver load, plus superb accuracy at any handgun hunting range. The standard .22 Hornet case is trimmed .050" and is ready to fire form in the slightly short neck K-Hornet chamber. The first loads have about the same center of impact as in formed cases, an indication it isn't temperamental. Lakeville Arms will convert Smith & Wesson K-22 guns to the Kay-Chuk. Either your gun, or a new one can be rechambered and the firing pin altered to center fire. They also supply trimmed cases, if you don't have a trimmer.

Loading is extremely easy with standard RCBS dies for K-Hornets. Some makes of dies do not seat the bullet fully, but work if you face off the seating punch a few thousandths. The Kay-Chuk punches holes in 1/8" cold rolled steel plates that shed Remington Metal Point .357 bullets. Kay-Chuk pills explode at normal hunting range to help reduce ricochets. They get out to maximum hunting range in a hurry with a very flat trajectory, and beyond some 300 yards the velocity falls off rapidly for greater safety. The sharp crack sounds like a hot .357 load. There is practically no recoil, so rock 'n roll won't spoil your aim.

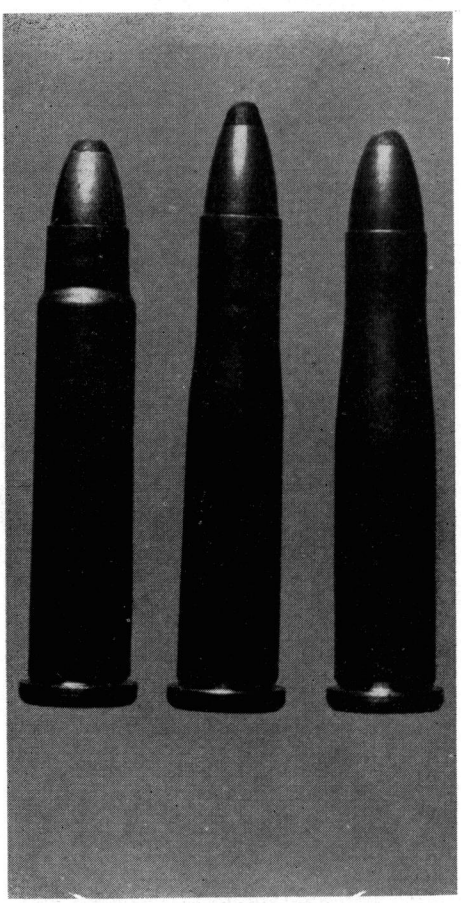
Unformed cases give about the same center of impact as after forming. Loading isn't critical or temperamental. Cases and loads work okay in standard K-Hornet rifles, so a companion rifle and handgun is practical. The sharp shoulder case requires only .004" headspace, and is less temperamental than a standard Hornet round in guns with

(Continued on Page Eight)

REMARKS

Mr. P. O. Ackley furnished the following data which is a portion of the data that will appear in his soon to be released **Second Edition of the P. O. Ackley Handbook.** The velocities were obtained by electric chronograph by Mr. Charles Stocking of Hutchinson, Minnesota.

17 Cal. Hornet			
25 gr. bullet	10.5 gr.	4227	3300 FPS
17 Bee			
20 gr. bullet	12	gr. 4227	4166
25 gr. bullet	11	gr. 2400	3800
17/222			
20 gr. bullet	19	gr. 4198	4644
25 gr. bullet	17	gr. 4198	3704



Kay-Chuk round, left, compared with standard Hornet, and right a trimmed Hornet case loaded to fire form. (Photo courtesy GUN DIGEST, 1959, 13th Edition)

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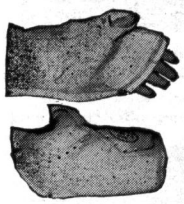

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A Conveniently Available Bedding Material

(Continued from Page Five)

ceiver clamped in place and let set for an hour. Results were better than I had a right to expect! This stuff did as good a job as any of the so-called bedding compounds and I've tried them all. It is very easy to use—just add a few drops of hardening liquid to the filler, stir it in and it's ready. The filler contains fiberglass so there's no fooling around with glass flock. It hardens fairly fast but still allows ample working time. It can be cut, filed or sanded when hard. Some people might object to the light gray color but no glass bedding, if properly used, should ever be visible on an assembled rifle. I have bedded a 40X Remington with "Plastik Autobody Filler" and am going to use it to bed a .308 Springfield. Personally I'm sold on the stuff. "Plastik Autobody Filler" is manufactured by Unican Plastics Co., Northboro, Mass., and is available through automotive parts and supply dealers.

New Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk Wildcat Varmint Revolver

(Continued from Page Seven)

bushed chambers and custom barrels or lined bores, a conversion I've played with and don't like as well as the Kay-Chuk. Head pressure and total pressure is less than in big bores with the same psi pressure. Some universal powder funnels do not allow the mouth of a sharp shoulder case to contact the funnel. Either ream your funnel or use one of the correct size.

Remington cases are recommended because they hold more powder. Cut top charges 10% to 20% with other makes. Best bullet is the 35 grain Sisk, followed by the 40 grain Sierra. A 50 grain pill is too heavy for accuracy in this slow twist. One extra grain of Unique in top loads runs pressure to 45,000 psi. Pressure increases 6,000 psi to gain an extra 50 fps with top 2400 charges. Don't get powder-happy!

A whale of a lot of testing went into the Kay-Chuk loads, that were carefully worked up for accuracy, then lab tested for velocity and pressure. Little if any adjustment will be needed. Cases have a long life with easy extraction. I recommend full length sizing, as with any handgun case. Bullseye and Unique may work better in barrels shorter than 6". Always use pistol primers, as they give better ignition and much lower pressure for max velocity. I've fired a lot of loads varying from mild to hot in one of the first experimental Kay-Chuks, and I'm extremely pleased with the way it performs on the range or in the field. It puts the .22 rim fires to shame, for either small eating game or varmints, plus the advantages over the harder-to-shoot big bores.

Not one of the many varmints I've hit got away. It's common to wound such game with big bores that deliver as much energy. Jackrabbits are almost cut apart. One bunny hit in the hind leg was paralyzed with shock and couldn't move. A big snake didn't even twitch when hit in the neck. Big bullets may be best for big, heavy game, but there isn't any argument that high velocity is a far better and faster killer on smaller animals.

.22 rim fire handguns are notorious for crippling game as small as squirrels, and they are certainly not sporting for wounding larger varmints. (Despite the fact you see a snarling bobcat pictured in ads for .22 rim fire ammo!) A good, hot load I can recommend for squirrels or targets is 3 grains Bullseye with the 35 grain Sisk bullet; or 2.7 grains with the 40 grain Sierra pill, for a lighter load. Heavy loads are suitable for almost anything in the varmint class. In fact, the Kay-Chuk would bag a deer with a well placed shot, although I do not consider it a deer gun for other than survival conditions.

The Kay-Chuk excells in ease of loading for economical shooting with high accuracy and high velocity. The jacketed bullets are so good and cheap it's hardly worthwhile to swage your own, and they are more uniform and accurate than naked lead. In other words, this is the easiest and cheapest precision ammo to load. The power boost from a pip-squeek rim fire is amazing, with almost no recoil or ricochets. Harvey seems to stay a decade or so ahead of the big arms makers with his developments, including his Prot-X-bore and Jugular bullets, moulds and swaging dies. Also include his four Maglaska wildcats, that use his bullet developments in .429 caliber to turn big game heels over head with big bullets AND high velocity. Nearly all of our firearms progress has come from the wildcatters, experimenters and hobby shooters.

Tom Dyer, Jr., Canton, Connecticut, is quite a shooter and a nice fella who knows his guns. He has done considerable bench shooting with the powerful feather-weight .429 Maglaska wildcats that pack a 5,000 foot pound punch, with fine accuracy and moderate recoil, considering the energy. Taking an arm rest with the Kay-Chuk, Tom put 5 shots in 5 inches at 150 yards, which is pretty good handgunning. It can't be done with a crummy gun or ammo! Harvey himself tried a Kay-Chuk and said, "We popped at a white rock some two feet in diameter at 300 yards. 8 out of 10 shots popped dust out of the rock, holding just above the top edge."

With the Kay-Chuk sighted at 25 yards, it's on aim at 100, and about 3" low at 150, with top loads that give uncanny accuracy.

Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk Ballistics

All loads have been lab tested with pistol primers in trimmed and formed Remington cases. Charges should be reduced 10 to 20 percent in other cases. Velocity is at 20 feet from the muzzle. Charges for loads above 20,000 psi should be weighed.

Powder Type	Powder Grains	Velocity F.P.S.	Pressure P.S.I.	Energy F.P.
With 35 grain Sisk Bullet:				
Bullseye	2	935	8,200	68
Bullseye	4	1625	23,300	205
Unique	5	1650	21,500	212
Unique	6	2,050	24,250	327
2400	8	1,800	21,500	252
2400	8.5	2,000 Est	-------	----
2400	9.5	2175	29,000	368
With 40 grain Sierra Bullet				
Bullseye	2	893	9,500	71
Bullseye	4	1574	24,500	220
Unique	5	1650	21,500	242
Unique	6	1970	25,300	345
2400	8	1662	21,900	245
2400	9	2059	29,200	376

I would appreciate any comments you would care to make and would like to hear from any Precision SHOOTING readers who might have done some experimenting with bedding compounds.

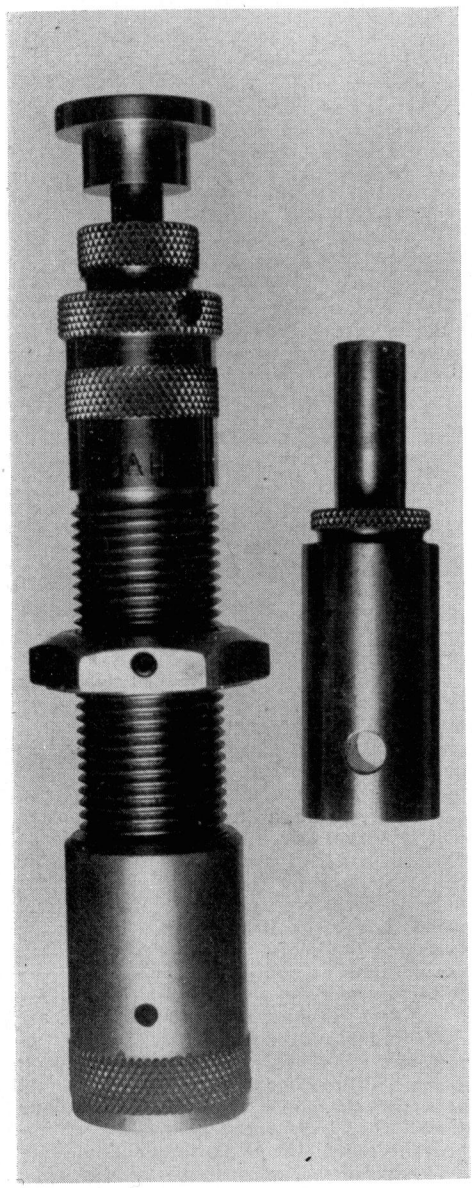
Yours,
Jim Scoville
Box 87, Osage City, Kans.

We have had requests for published information on jacketed bullet making. There will be comprehensive chapters on jacketed bullet making, equipment used, and presses suitable for bullet swaging in the latest edition of THE ULTIMATE IN RIFLE PRECISION, which will be available in August.

HANDGUN BULLET SWAGING DIES

By Kent Bellah

Bahler Die Shop, 1500 Thompson Road, Coos Bay, Oregon, has brought out some new handgun bullet swaging dies for standard thread presses, with punch holders for the R.C.B.S. Model A, Model B and Jr. presses, also the C-H Magnum, Pacific and Hollywood. The holder pictured with the punch inside is for the R.C.B.S. Model A or A-2 press. Bullet shape punches are supplied in solid or hollow point types and in half a dozen designs. Standard diameters are .357, .358, .429, .452 and .454. Bahler will make special shapes or calibers on special order. An adjustable length dual core cutter is available to cut 5/16" wire slugs for .38-357 calibers or ⅜" for .44-45 calibers, with standard jackets.



BAHLER handgun jacketed bullet swaging die with punch and punch holder for R. C. B. S. presses at right.

These are hand ejector dies. My .429 set is beautifully finished inside and out, made to close dimensions with the parts well fitted. My four nose punches are for the bullet shapes pictured, one being a hollow point design with a large, deep cavity for fast expansion at moderate velocity. The punches are made with the nose vented and unvented. There is no noticeable difference in performance, but I prefer the vented type.

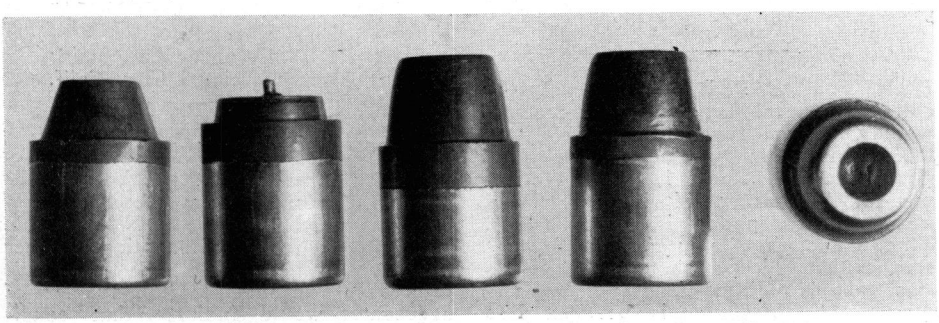
Cores are cut to slightly more than the desired weight from lead wire, and with the dies correctly adjusted, excess lead is extruded from the bleed holes as the bullet is swaged with one stroke, then ejected by hand. This expand-up swaging operation is quite easy with the powerful R. C. B. S. Model A press. Instructions are packed with the dies, that work in a conventional manner for this type die, so we won't repeat the directions.

Our dies were adjusted to produce a 241.8 grain bullet with Lakeville Arms jackets, the semi-wadcutter design in the center of the picture. As expected, bullet weight ran extremely uniform. Bullets were loaded in Rem. .44 Magnum cases, charged with 23 grains 2400. Loading was with a special "tight" R.C.B.S. .44 Magnum 4-Die set, that I highly recommend. Standard dimension sizers may not reduce cases enough for a tight bullet fit in this caliber, so the last bullet or two in the cylinder may drive out of the case a bit from recoil, and tie up the gun. Separate seating and crimping is best with soft bullets.

With this 4-Die Set cases are 1) sized, 2) decapped and expanded, 3) primer pockets cleaned, 4) the case inspected, 5) primed, 6) carefully charged, 7) the bullet seated with a non-deforming punch in the third die, and 8) crimped in the fourth die. You can slight or omit some operations, but shooters who spend the time and money to make fine swaged, jacketed bullets are not looking for the fastest and cheapest ammo. It's important that cases be trimmed to a uniform length to insure a uniform crimp. The length is listed as 1.285, but I've found that 1.270 is necessary to clean up all cases in all lots of both makes I've used. Any uniform length is okay. Visual inspection AFTER trimming, and before lightly deburring will show up any serious wall variation, if you don't use a mike. The crimp is moderately heavy.

Five shot test groups at 50 yards ran about 3", 3¼" and 3¾", an average of about .7 moa better accuracy than one make of factory fodder fired the same day. Recoil seemed less than the factory ammo that gave approximately the same center of impact, so that no sight adjustment was necessary. One factory round gave a flyer that was not counted,

(Continued on Page Sixteen)



Jacketed handgun bullets made in BAHLER swaging dies.

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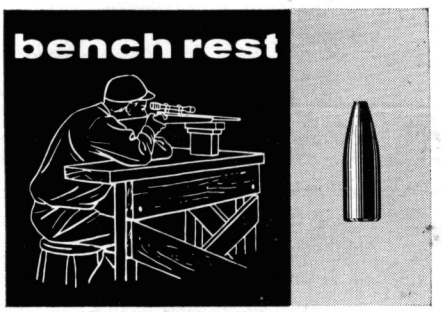

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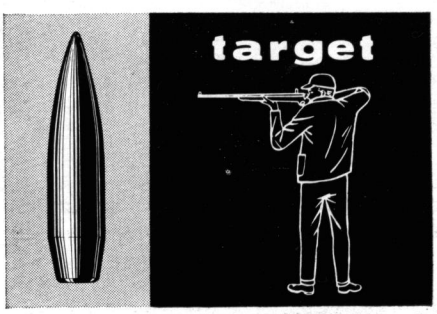

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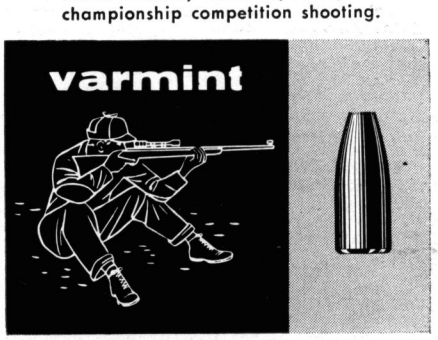

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EASTERN REGION:

SOUTHBORO, MASS.: Aug. 17, Oct. 12 (not registered); Southboro Gun Club, J. W. Baldwin, 5 Milk St., Westboro, Mass.

STAUNTON, VIRGINIA: July 24-25, Oct. 4-5; Stonewall Rifle & Pisto. Club, J. W. Perry, 409 Du Pont Ave., Staunton, Va.

PLAINFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: July 20, Sept. 14; Plainfield Rifle Club, Leslie R. Stone, Sec'y, Plainfield, N. H.

AUGUSTA, OHIO: July 19 (night), Aug. 2 (night), Aug. 30-31; Reed's Run Rifle Range, Box 66, Augusta, Ohio.

WILKES-BARRE, PA.: Aug. 2-3; Wilkes-Barre Rifle & Pistol Club, William C. Deets, Sec'y, Pole 141, Harvey's Lake, Pa.

EASTON, OHIO: Aug. 17; Chippewa Rifle Club, Donald Snyder, Sec'y, 260 Clinton St., Doylestown, Ohio.

ALTOONA, PA.: Aug. 10; Altoona Rifle & Pistol Club, John Kaylor, 709 4th Ave., Juniata, Altoona, Pa.

JOHNSTOWN, NEW YORK: Labor Day weekend; Pine Tree Rifle Club; Sid Blake, 105 Dove St., Johnstown, N. Y.

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA: Sept. 20-21 (invitational); Locust Grove Rifle Range, F. S. Yenowine, 1401 North 13th St., Terre Haute, Ind.

WINDSOR, ILLINOIS: Sept. 7; Windsor Rod & Gun Club, Inc., Windsor, Ill.

GREENUP, ILLINOIS: Aug. 17 (varmint, not registered), Sept. 13-14 (Illinois State Championship); Cumberland County Sportsmen's Club, Inc., Herschel E. Owen, Casey, Illinois.

MID-CONTINENT REGION

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI: Sept. 14; Bench Rest Rifle Club of St. Louis. James R. Ernst, Sec'y, 2230 Ferncliff, Kirkwood 22, Mo.

TULSA, OKLAHOMA: Aug. 9, Sept. 6, **Sept. 26-27-28 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOT;** Tulsa Bench Rest Rifle Club, R. G. Berry, Sec'y, Pawnee, Oklahoma.

WICHITA, KANSAS: Aug. 2, Aug. 30-31, Oct. 5; Wichita Bench Rest Rifle Club, Dale Apperson, Sec'y, 935 No. Doris, Wichita, Kans.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

CUSTER, SOUTH DAKOTA: Aug. 16-17; Black Hills Bench Rest Rifle Ass'n, Walt Siewert, Custer, So. Dak.

GULF COAST REGION

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS: Aug. 31; Coleman B. Brown, 602 Sorrell St., Corpus Christi, Texas.

SOUTHWEST REGION

YREKA, CALIFORNIA: Aug. 30-31 (not registered—open and varmint rifles); Yreka Rifle Club, Ray E. Jones, 508 Knapp St., Yreka, Calif.

ATTENTION NBRSA MEMBERS

The ruckus about rests has brought so many letters, quite evidently intended for publication, that it is quite impossible to publish them all. No one could make selections for publication without bringing upon himself accusations of favoritism and bias. Hence, none of the letters are being or will be published.

Without exception the letters received have been statements of opinion, only, and none contain any actual information or news. The reference to rests in the STOOL SHOOTIN STUFF column in this issue is likewise a matter of opinion of one person, who quite frankly admits that he was a minority of a committee to propose one new rule draft.

I have not, myself, seen any of the outfits that are being labeled "portable machine rests" by some people, and no one has given me any clear description of them. Further, no one has yet given me name, date and place where any rest, alone, has shown marked superiority over others. I am trying to get supplied an illustrated and descriptive article on the improved rests (I hope in time for the August issue of P. S.) in order that we may **ALL** know what is being talked about. If **ANYONE** will supply me with the names of persons who are using the improved rests in matches I can check the comparative results in match results bulletins. At present I do not have that information and so do not have any foundation on which to form even an "opinion" on the comparative worth of the rests in question.

Finally, it rests with the NBRSA board of directors to make rule changes. Therefore, members should send the Director of their region their opinions on the rest rule in order that each Director may intelligently represent the MEMBERS in his region. The name and address of every Director is printed on this page. It is the responsibility of each individual member to inform the director of his region of his desire and opinion on NBRSA policy, in writing.

P. H. Teachout, Sec'y-Treas.

NATIONAL SHOOT RANGE IS READIED

Mr. A. L. Day of the Tulsa Bench Rest Rifle Club advises that the 100 and 200 yard ranges on the John Zink Range have now been rebuilt and are ready for the National Shoot, September 26-27-28, except for some landscaping. As of July 1st, the frame is up for a 60 x 80 x 14 building which is located about 50 feet behind and parallel with the firing line. The background of photo on the opposite page indicates a pleasing range location. It is planned to mail National Shoot programs to all NBRSA members by early August.

HENRY FORSTER is facing a probable long convalescence at his home and would welcome anyone dropping by to talk shooting or "just chew the fat." His address is Route 1, Box 444, Hemet, Calif. (corner of Mayberry and Lake) and his phone is Olive 8-2560. There's enough of you shooters in that area so that Henry shouldn't have to start talking to himeslf. If you are visiting So. Calif., Hemet is between Los Angeles and Indio—nearer Indio.

THE MEMBERS FORUM

Dear Phil:

If I hadn't realized it before I know now that California is one heck of a long and beautiful state. As you know, I live in the most south west county in the U. S. and Jack Rice and I drove nearly 900 miles in two days to participate in the Yreka bench rest matches on June 8th in Siskiyou County in extreme northern California. It's strange how far a couple of bench rest shooters will drive just to burn some powder.

After passing through the beautiful Mt. Shasta lake and forest area we found Yreka and were impressed by the range and facilities this small club had provided. The fact that they had to move several thousand yards of earth just to make a level range area was evidence of the interest in shooting in that area. We contacted Ray Jones, who seems to be the main-spring behind these bench rest matches, and found him and his wife to be most pleasant and cooperative.

As near as I can determine, this was the first bench rest match to be held in California in several years. (Editor's note: the Yreka club held one or two matches late last season with some shooters from the San Francisco Bay Area participating.) Not an encouraging situation but one that may well improve.

It's true that the Yreka range still lacks some desirable equipment—such as better club home facilities, equipment for a moving backer target and a few more benches, but the situation is rapidly being improved and is certainly a poor excuse for these matches to be boycotted and ignored by certain so-called officials and other supposedly accomplished bench rest shooters in the Western area who it seems will deign to participate in only Official and Registered bench rest matches. This attitude does little to encourage a game that is—let's face it—SICK! Furthermore, a small club like Yreka shows real courage in conducting a series of matches in spite of their modest equipment.

There were a number of shooters and observers from Oregon as well as California and I was happy to see Ray Speer again, who flew in from Idaho. I believe everyone enjoyed himself and would like to do it again. Of course the fact that Jack and I won several prizes between us was most gratifying and certainly more than we expected.

These Northern California boys are quite ingenious in designing their pedestals and we had a great time comparing notes and equipment, which to me is just as important as the actual shooting. The Yreka Club performed a further and important service in compiling and mailing a complete bulletin of all participants, their scores, prizes and a detailed list of their equipment—all within **one week** after the match.

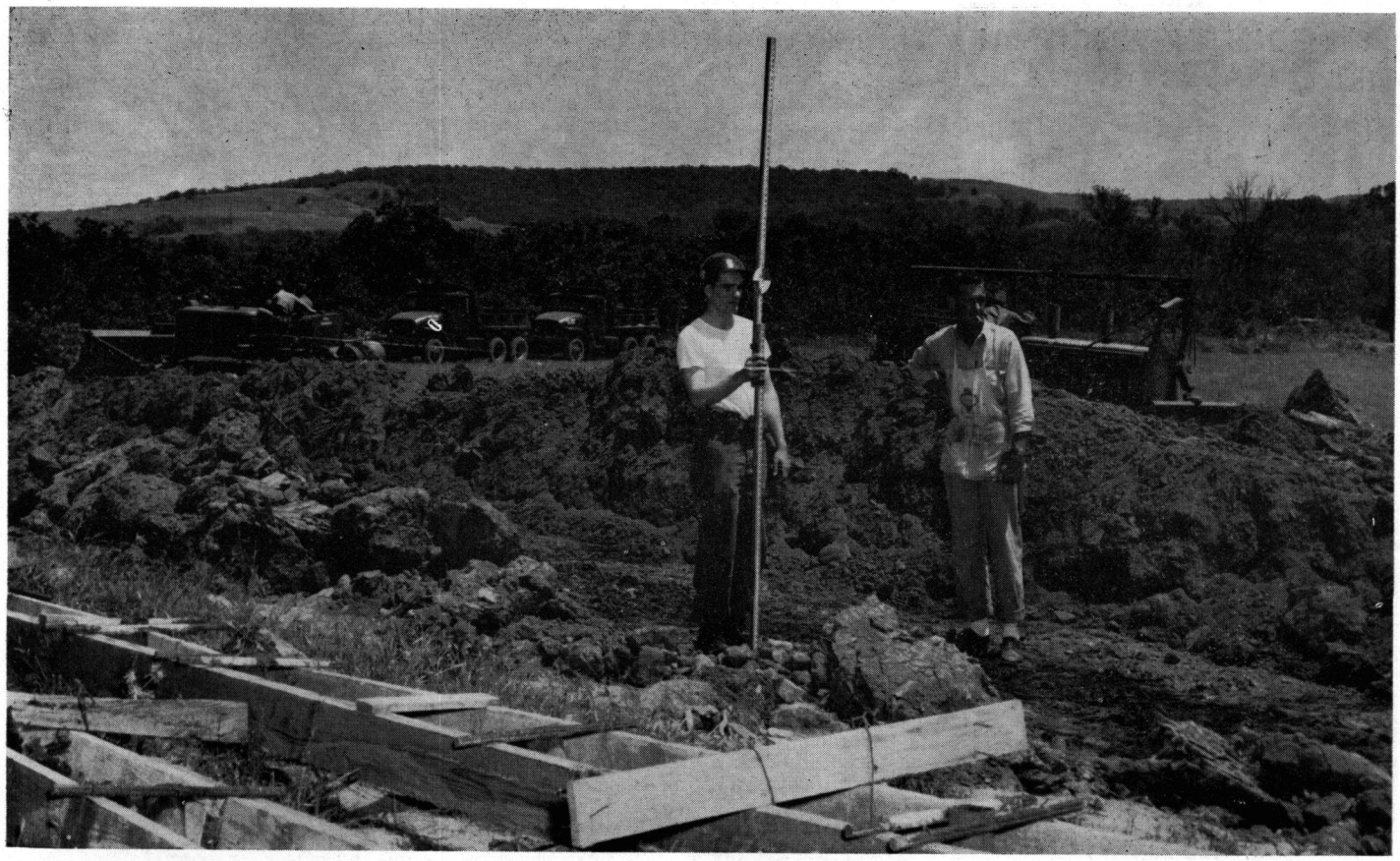
I say—more power to YREKA!

Sincerely,
Don (6m/m) Smith
National City, Calif.

BENCH REST MATCH RESULTS ANNUAL DUBOIS, PA. SHOOT

Fifty eight competitors fired in the annual Memorial Day weekend shoot of the DuBois, Pa. Rifle & Pistol Club. We have no report of shooting weather conditions but, while it took very small groups to win matches, the average of aggregates would indicate that condi-

(Continued on Page Thirteen)



Civilian club members and National Guard Engineer Co. cooperate in building rifle ranges on property donated for use by public spirited industrialist-sportsman John Zink near Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Phil:

It was good to see you at Southboro and I hope that on your return you found what was causing your gun to behave so badly. I don't doubt that you were surprised and disappointed to find it going haywire after the excellent shooting that you did hardly a week previously at Plainfield.

That was a nice little shoot that we had at Southboro and it was good to see that the backing system was working satisfactorily because I have always felt that it would be very disappointing for a fellow to get some good targets and not have them accepted as records.

Shooting conditions are often very good at both Plainfield and Southboro and the fun that the contestants have there is proving the point that the small shoots can be as interesting and as hotly contested as the bigger ones.

I sort of hated to take the aggregate away from Merrie but I couldn't know that she would have the bad luck to get one shot out of the group on the last match—far enough so that it made my reasonably good group turn the tables. As things turned out she won more money than I did—having placed more often. As I write this we are both looking forward to another session at Southboro on the last Sunday of the month.

I was one of a number who was snafued by the cancellation of the Wilkes Barre match but in spite of that telegram that I received at the last minute, I had one of the most pleasant weekends of the Spring. I had planned to stop by at Bob Stinehour's house to pick him up on the way to Wilkes Barre and when I telephoned him among others that the shoot was cancelled, both he and I were pretty well packed up ready to go. He twisted my arm pretty hard and talked me into driving 200 miles to his house just the same. Instead of taking the bench rest job, I took a Varmint rifle as Bob allowed that there were a few chucks around his neck of the woods that were looking for trouble. I got to his house just after he got home from work and it seemed only minutes before we had a nice supper and were saying good-bye to Edith for an undetermined number of hours. We quickly reached the chuck country but the abundance of rain in the previous days had made the grass so deep that it was almost impossible to get a shot. Both Bob and I did get shots, however, in a field that was mowed. Just about dark we heard some shooting that Bob estimated was coming from Harry Clark's bench. Sure enough as we drove by, there was Harry finishing up some testing of a .243 Winchester model 70, and he was making some very creditable groups with it. The following mission was to test it for velocity on his ballistic pendulum. Harry had improved on a setup that was mentioned in one of last Fall's articles in The Rifleman and from what I can observe, had a gadget that anybody could get a lot of good from with very little expense. Harry's was suspended from 10′ cables attached to a convenient limb of a tree. After testing five shots with his gun he insisted that Bob and I try our 6 mm Cotters on it. This 6mm which is made from a .250/3000 case with the shoulder pushed back for a ⅜″ neck to my mind is one of the most efficient of the lot. It drives my 73.5 gr. 7S bullet at over 3400 F P S and is extremely accurate. Bob was shooting a bullet nearly 13 grs. heavier so his velocity was not as great but both his gun and mine showed very little variance in velocities for five shots, which spoke most highly for Harry's setup.

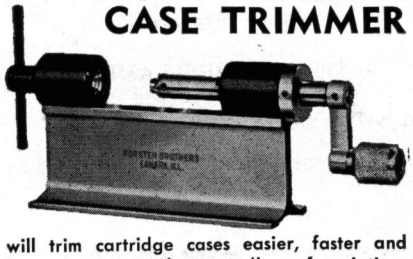
We chinned until late in the hours of the following morning about guns, and stocks and chambers and loads before retiring for the night in Bob's trailer. The next morning we were off bright and early to Roxbury, N. Y. to the lair of that enthusiastic tough shooting gang that gets in lots of practice at Rob Smith's nice range. There were seven of us that took part in the little match that afternoon and the scenery around was so beautiful that I had trouble keeping my eye on the target. We had a little wind and mirage and the competition was very keen—keen by everybody except poor Andy Brower who had gun troubles. He had a new gadget and bedding system that just didn't work after the first few shots but it was better for him to learn it at a little match like that than to find himself in trouble at one of the big ones. I am sure Andy was disappointed and well recognized that it was mechanical failure instead of his prowess. He's been shooting so well this Spring—especially Plainfield, that I expected we'd be having our usual hard fight to keep up with him.

Phil, I liked the June issue and I hope that I remember to take advantage of that subscription extension at the low price. We need to do some serious thinking in our association because if we don't, we are going to find that the rift is getting wider and wider. It is only natural that people have different ideas and also it's only natural that many people object to anything that restricts them but let's get our feet squarely on the ground and face the issue which confronts us.

I personally can name dozens of fel-

(Continued on Page Twelve)

the FORSTER PRECISION CASE TRIMMER



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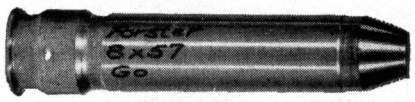

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Stool Shootin' Stuff

(Continued from Page Eleven)

lows who are so fed up that they are losing interest in the game. I know that there will be readers who read this and say—"so what—let's lose them, we will get some new members." To my mind that's very backward thinking. A new customer gained in any business is a valuable accomplishment, but to lose a customer and gain one is in most cases not even marking time. There is nothing as valuable to our association as the old shooters who know it well and the enjoyment which the association has contributed to them for years. I can speak best, of course, about conditions in the East. We have had some growth and some new shooters but they are hard to come by but, Phil, as comprehensive as I have been I had never expected the attendance at Du Bois to drop to 1/3 of normal. I hope it is not the pattern for the East for the coming big shoots. If it is, we are in for worse trouble and we have paid a terrific price for our unwillingness to appraise and properly alter our organization to match conditions and the feeling of the shooters. The East is a big proportion of the national association. The killing of revenues of that area may cause the demise of the national organization.

I know some of the fellows out West and without exception I am fond of them. I know their sincerity and I would not willingly wish to alienate their friendship and I hope that a difference in opinion does not do so. Many of the words in Roy Meister's article were spoken by him to me when I was at San Angelo. I know he is sincere but I just as truly think he is wrong in insisting that we make the competitions unlimited. I am aware that many of us hark back to the early days of our association and attempt to justify our positions for or agin some of the rule changes because of those early words describing our purposes.

I don't wish to change the purposes of our organization but I am dog-goned if I see anything in there that prohibits us from determining the type of competitions that we shall have. I don't wish either to go back to shooting off of sandbags but somewhere between the unwelcome rest and the sandbag, there must be a meeting of minds if we are to prosper.

The newer rests have a very important place in the picture for determining the accuracy of guns, barrels, loads, stocks, bullets, and should be used for that purpose. If, through using them, one has determined that his equipment has all of the bugs out of it, he is able to go into competition with confidence and seriously do better than he would otherwise. Now, it seems to me that the fellows who talk about the accent being on the rifle are, to a large extent, talking through their hats. There are fellows who are very fond of their gun and very proud of its ability to perform, but I don't know of a single one that has given the gun credit for winning the matches. A gun just can't do it by itself—not even with the new devices. No match is won until the last shot is fired, and it takes the shooter to judge the conditions as to where to fire it as well as having correctly judged the previous 49 shots. It's the shooter's name that's posted on the board or given the accolade over other competitors. It's the shooter who is thought of and who goes down in history. A million people have heard of Rowland's groups but only a very few can recall the rifle he used to make it.

The same thinking goes about the fellows in our gang. They change rifles from season to season but the hot competitors are only hot because they shoot well.

I am only one of many and I don't have a rest that comes within the contested category, but I know fellows who do and I have shot a number of them that return so accurately to battery that they overlap successive shots whereas the cross-hair or dot on the scope doesn't come within a row of apple trees of registering at the same spot from shot to shot. Most of those who have them say that their use is taking unfair advantage of those who do not, and the real big buys who have them would willingly rule them out of competition and use them only for test purposes outside of matches. Can't we somehow get more big guys and little ones to take the step that will be for the good of all of us.

I don't wish to write the rule for the association, I headed a committee for that purpose earlier this year. I had to submit a minority report but if it were left to me I would write the rule as follows:

There shall be two separate rests either or both sandbags, alone or in conjunction with mechanically controlled devices.

In lieu of a sandbag, hard rests may be used.

One of these shall not restrict by devices on the gun or the rest, the fore and aft or longitudinal movement of the gun. The other rest shall in no way restrict the lateral movement of the gun. The restriction for either lateral or longitudinal movement if accomplished shall be at all times limited by a portion of the shooters body or clothing.

However, mechanical devices of any design may be used to adjust the gun to aiming point from shot to shot provided that they don't restrict to an extent greater than described above.

Any device which allows the return of the gun to firing position without separate mechanical or manual control of the shooter between shots to less than one minute of angle, shall be considered as returning to battery and declared as illegal.

I certainly would like to receive a post card response as to the readers' opinions on a rule similar to the above.

Cordially yours,

Ernest Stuhlmuller

HOW TO FOCUS TARGET AND HUNTING SCOPES TO ELIMINATE PARALAX

By Robert S. Thomas
Premier Reticles
How To Test For And Correct Paralax In Rifle Scopes

Paralax is a condition found in scopes where the objective lens and reticle are not in precise focus.

Paralax can cause inaccurate sighting and shooting because the reticle and target can be separated or displaced unless the eye is placed exactly in the same position for each shot—a condition practically impossible to achieve. Paralax is caused by the image formed by the objective lens being in a different plane than the reticle.

To test for paralax in a rifle scope the scope must be held in such a position that it can not possibly move during the test. Best results can be obtained by removing the scope from the rifle and supporting it in "V" blocks. If this is not practical the rifle and scope should be positioned on sand bags or some other rigid mount.

To actually test for paralax the scope is aimed at a suitable target, plumb line,

(Continued on Page Eighteen)

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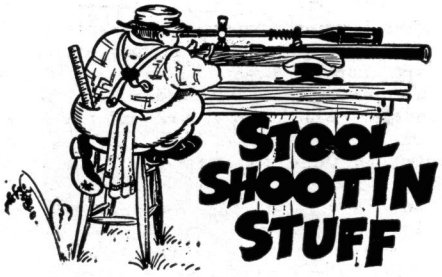

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Bench Rest Match Results

(Continued from Page Ten)

tions may not have been ideal for tight grouping.

Three 300 meter matches were fired Friday afternoon, May 30th. Ed Wojciechowski (Pa.) won the first with a 2.605″ group; Harold Hale (Pa.), 1957 National Champ, won the second with 2.050″ and John Hart (W. Va.) took the third with 1.866″. Chester Benjamin (Pa.) placed in the top five in all three matches and won the aggregate with a 2.868 inch average. Harold Hale had second agg. of 2.891, Ed Wojceichowski third 2.905 and Lyle Heap (N. Y.) fourth 3.006.

The ladies took command of the situation at the beginning of the 200 yard shooting on Saturday, May 31st. Bernice McMullen of Minerva, Ohio, won the first match with a .694″ 10-shot group and Doris Benjamin, Eldred, Pa., took the second with a .695″, the only group under one inch fired in that match. Chester Benjamin took the third match with .791″, Lawrence Rucker (Ohio) the fourth with 1.022″ and Geo. Hooker (Pa.) the fifth with .900″. Chester Benjamin won the 200 yard aggregate with .599 minute of angle average; W. M. Brown (Ohio) had .609; Paul O. Gottschall (Ohio) .659; Lyle Heap .698 for the prize places.

The 100 yard stage of the National Match Course was fired Sunday, June 1st. Omar Rinehart (Ohio) won the first match with a .414″ group; Chester Benjamin won the second with .342″; Paul Gottschall won the third with .297″ and the fourth with .352″; W. M. Brown took the fifth with a .392″ group. Gottschall won the aggregate with a .468″ average, Chester Benjamin second with .5134″, John Hutchinson (Pa.) third with .5136″, and Ray Geitner (Pa.) fourth with .520″.

Chester Benjamin won the National Match Course aggregate with a .556 minute of angle average, Paul Gottschall was second with .563, and W. M. Brown third with .600. R. A. "Bob" Riss of the DuBois Club made only one fifth place in the team matches but his consistent good grouping won him the fourth spot in the NMC agg. with a .657 m.o.a. average.

Benjamin shot a .219 Don, Taylor & Robbins built rifle with Douglas barrel on F. N. action with 25.7 grs. 3031, bullets made in B&A dies, Federal primers, and used a B&L 6-24 scope. Gottschall shot a .222 in Johnson barrel on his own action, 20.8 grs. 4198, bullets made in B&A dies, Rem. primers, and used a 24X Unertl scope. Brown shot a .222 in Douglas barrel on Rem. action, 24 grs. Ball powder, his own bullets, Rem. primers, and used a Lyman 25X scope. Riss shot a .219 in Hart barrel on 98 Mauser action, 29.5 grs. (?) 3031, his own home-made bullets, Speer primers, and used a 16X scope.

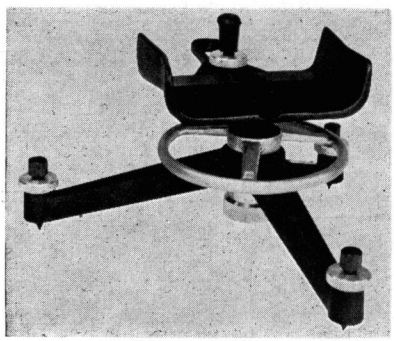
M. H. "Mike" Walker (N. Y.) shot a 6mm in Hart barrel on Hart action, with 29 grs. 3031, bullets made in B&A dies, 9½ Rem. primer, and a Lyman 15X scope to place fifth in the NMC agg. with .673 m.o.a. average. Of the other 12 top ranking shooters, 6 shot the .222 case and 6 the .219 Don (one of these shooting a 6mm in the 300 meter matches and placing in one match). All 13 shot either home made or custom made bullets, and all shot under .700 m.o.a. aggregates.

REED'S RUN RIFLE RANGE MAY SHOOT

Forty four competitors fired in the May 17-18 matches at Reed's Run Rifle Range at Augusta, Ohio. Forty shot the unrestricted rifles and four shot Varmint rifles over exactly the same course as the heavy rifles. The top Varmint rifle groups are listed with the winners which gives a comparison of the accuracy that presently may be expected from the light rifles.

Four 5-shot and five 10-shot matches were fired at 200 yards on Saturday, May 17th. Albert Johnson (Mich.) won the first 5-shot match with a .229 inch group. Omar Rinehart (Ohio) won the first 10-shot match with a .570″ group; Chester Benjamin (Pa.) the second with .854″; Irv Potter (Ohio) the third with .942″; Earl Thompson (Ohio) the fourth with .770″; and Paul Gottschall (Ohio) the fifth with .570″. Three more 5-shot matches followed, the winners being Chester Benjamin .368″, Doris Benjamin (Pa.) .330″ and Bernice McMullin (Ohio) .339″. Varmint rifle winning groups were: first 5-shot, Raymond Novak (Mich.) .619″; five following 10-shot groups, Paul E. Lagrou (Mich.) 1.439″, Lagrou 1.860″, Lawrence Rucker (Ohio) 2.010″, Rucker 1.151″, Lagrou 1.099″; for

(Continued on Page Fifteen)



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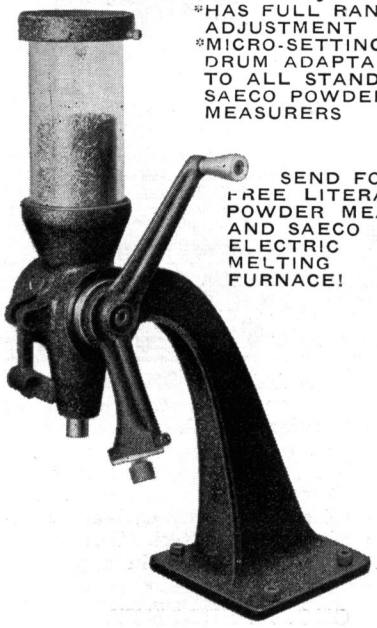

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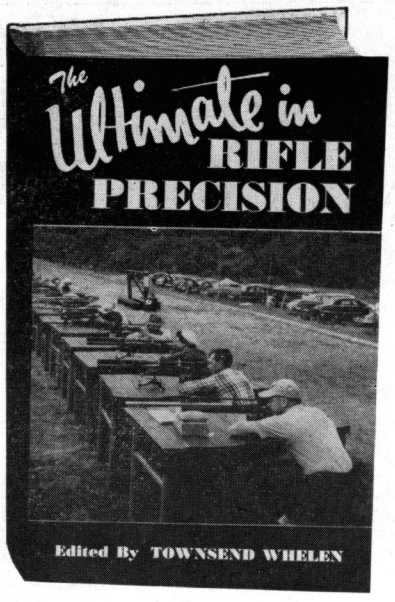

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Bench Rest Match Results

(Continued from Page Thirteen)

the final three 5-shot matches, Rucker .900", Rucker 1.010", Novak .700".

Paul Gottschall won the 200 yard 10-shot match aggregate with a .470 minute of angle average, Chester Benjamin second with .542, Omar Rinehart third with .578, L. S. Glenn (Ohio) fourth .591, high varmint rifle Lagrou with .834 m.o.a.

Sunday's 100 yard match winners were (first is match winner and second high Varmint rifle): First 5-shot match, Gottschall .180", Rucker .486". Following 10-shot matches; No. 2, Rinehart .448", Lagrou .613"; No. 3, Clarence Aumiller (Pa.) .490", Rucker .714"; No. 4, Stanley Savich (Pa.) .420", Novak .720"; No. 5, Savich .475", Lagrou .628"; No. 6, Dr. A. G. Parker (Pa.) .336", Novak .840". Final two 5-shot matches: No. 7, Gottschall .218", Rucker .652"; No. 8, Ellsworth Smith (Pa.) .200", Lagrou .560".

Stanley Savich won the five 10-shot match aggregate with a .477" average, Gottschall second .533", Rinehart third .553", John Hutchinson (Pa.) third .628", Lagrou, high Varmint with .826".

Gottschall won the NMC aggregate with a .501 minute of angle average; Rinehart second with .566; Savich third with .583; Chester Benjamin fourth with .605; and Lagrou high Varmint rifle with .830 m.o.a.

Gottschall and Benjamin shot the same outfits they later shot at DuBois (see report of that match). Rinehart shot a Taylor and Robbins built .219 Wasp with Douglas barrel on F. N. action, bullets home made in B&A dies, Federal primers, and a Unertl 24X scope. Savich also shot a Taylor & Robbins .219 Don with other items nearly identical to Rinehart's. Hutchinson shot a .222 in Johnson barrel on his own action, with 24.3 grs. 4675 powder, his home made bullets and Western 6½ primers, and used a Unertl 24X scope, while Glenn shot a .222 in Douglas barrel on Rem. action, built by Grant Dick, with 25 grs. Ball powder, Brown bullets and Rem. primer, with Unertl scope. Lagrou shot a .222 Sako rifle of 10 lbs. weight, with 19.5 grs. 4198 powder, Sierra 53 gr. H. P. bullets and Cascade primers, with Lyman 20X scope. Novak and Rucker both shot customized .222's with custom made bullets.

TEXAS CHAMPIONSHIP SHOOT

The seventh annual Texas Bench Rest Championships at San Angelo, May 31 and June 1, had 28 shooting unrestricted rifle and 10 shooting Varmint Rifle. Four shoot both types of rifle, making a total of 34 competitors.

Robert W. Smith of Dallas successfully defended his state championship title with a .505 aggregate to win at 100 yds., a .619 m.o.a. for 2nd at 200 yds. and the winning NMC agg. of .562 m.o.a. Regional Director Coleman Brown of Corpus Christi won the 200 yd. aggregate with .609 and was fourth in the NMC with .610. W. C. Farrar of Grand Prairie was 3rd at 100 yds. with .523 and 2nd in the NMC with .598. H. E. Powers of Okmulgee, Okla. was 3rd in both the 200 yd. (.626) and the NMC with .5995 m.o.a. William S. Coleman of Burleson was 2nd in the 200 yd. agg. with .517.

Smith shot a .219 Don in A. L. Day barrel on F. N. action, with 27 grs. 3031 and his own home made bullets and Federal primers, and used a Unertl 24X scope. Farrar shot a .222 in Hart barrel

(Continued on Page Sixteen)

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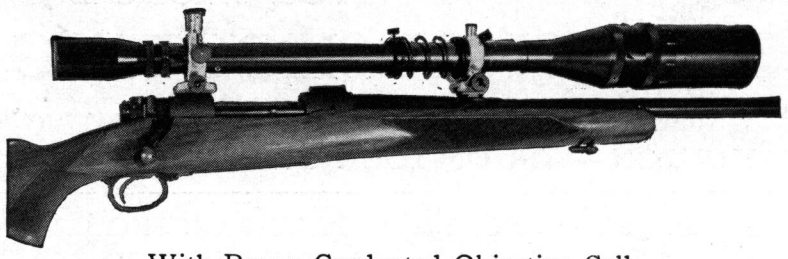

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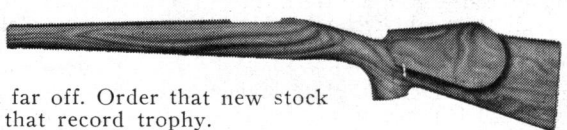

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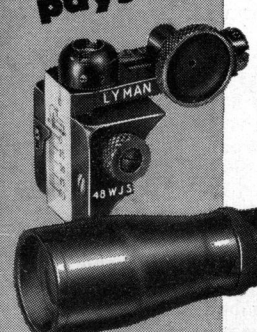

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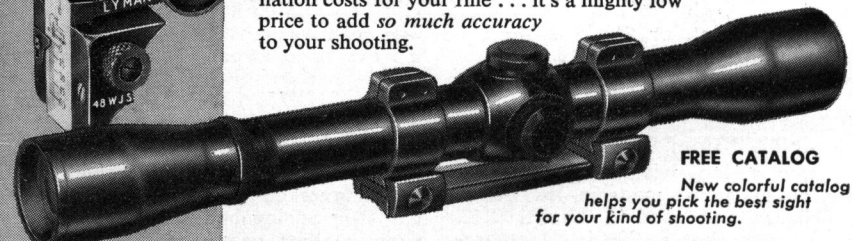

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(Continued from Page Nine)

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Handgun dies for solid bullets are priced at $48.50. A hollow point set is $52.50. An extra bullet shape punch is $7.50 in solid point, or $11.50 in hollow point. Dual core cutter is $12. Literature will be sent on request.

Bench Rest Match Results

(Continued from Page Fifteen)

on his own action, with 23.5 grs. Ball powder, bullets home made in B&A dies, Rem. primers and used a Unertl 24X scope. Powers shot a .222 in Hart barrel on his own action, with 23 grs. Ball powder, his own bullets made in B&A dies, Western primers, and used a Unertl 24X scope. Brown shot a .219 Don in Hart barrel on Hart action, with 26.5 grs. 3031, his own bullets from B&A dies, Federal primers, and used a Unertl 24X scope. Coleman shot a .222 in Hart barrel on S&L action, with 23.5 grs. Ball powder, bullets made in B&A dies, Rem. primers, and used a B&L 6-24 scope.

The Varmint Rifle shooters fired five 5-shot matches at 100 yards. Geo. S. Darden of Odessa won the aggregate with a .528" average, shooting a Sako .222 rifle weighing 9 lbs. 2 oz., with 20.5 grs. 4198, custom 53 gr. bullet, Federal primers, and used a Bushnell 10X scope. William S. Bock of Waco was second with .710" and shot the smallest group of .359". He shot a Sako .222 weighing 9⅝ lbs. with B&L 6-24 scope, with 23.9 grs. Ball powder, 50 gr. bullets made in B&A dies and Rem. 6½ primers. H. Shipley, Las Cruces, N. M., was third with .756", shooting a .222 in Hart barrel on Rem. 722 action weighing 12 lbs. 15 oz. with Unertl 12X scope. He used 24 grs. Ball powder with Speer 52 gr. bullet and Western 6½ primers.

John I. Moore shot a .22 rim fire in the Varmint matches, a Griffin & Howe rifle on Ballard action weighing 12¾ lbs. with Lyman 30X scope and shot in it Peters Dewar Match ammo. His groups were from .901" to 1.258" and averaged 1.073" for the five matches.

Six shot five 5-shot matches at 100 yards with larger caliber Sporter rifles. Ira Norris, Kerrville, had smallest five match average of .910" and H. B. Reagan, Big Spring had .970". Lee Brehmer shot smallest group of .500". No information on the equipment used in these matches.

SOUTHBORO, MASSACHUSETTS

Fourteen shooters from six states competed in the registered shoot on the Southboro Gun Club range May 25th. Rain, from a light drizzle to a fairly heavy steady rain, added nothing to the comfort of competitors but the covered firing line and roofed loading bench allowed the shooting to go on uninterrupted.

The Southboro range, with eight benches, is literally hewed out of a stand of second growth hardwood and appears to be well protected from wind but, for the uninitiated at least, funny things seem to happen to bullets apparently properly started toward the targets—though this did not seem to bother some of the competitors in the least. The moving backer, operated by a tiny war surplus bomb-bay motor powered by a six volt auto battery, worked without a hitch. The range is cleared to 200 yards but only 100 yards is used at present.

Shooting five 5-shot matches and five 10-shot matches at 100 yards, Mrs. Mary Hollidge, Marstons Mills, Mass., won or placed in 7 of the 10 matches and was ahead in the aggregate up to the final match when one wide shot gave the aggregate to husband Crawford H.—.443 to .446 average. Bob Stinehour, Newburgh, N. Y. was 3rd agg. with .466. Frank Dawley, W. Kingston, R. I. shot small 5-shot group of .200". Crawf Hollidge shot small 10-shot group of .320", Mary Hollidge shot two and Bob Stinehour one of .350", and Dr. Alonzo Garcelon, Augusta, Me. shot a .360".

The three high in agg. all shot .219 Don rifles, Mary Hollidge in a J. A. A.-PT barrel and the other two in Hart barrels—all three used their own home made bullets, 3031 powder and Federal primers, and Unertl scopes.

YREKA, CALIFORNIA

Ten shot two 5-shot and two 10-shot matches at each 100 and 200 yards with unrestricted rifle at the un-registered shoot sponsored by the Yreka Rifle Club, June 8th, and twelve shot the Varmint Rifle course—one 5-shot and one 10-shot match at each 100 and 200 yards.

With Open Rifle, the three high in 100 yd. stage agg. were: Jack Rice, National City, Calif., .428 m.o.a.; Ray Speer, Lewiston, Idaho .477; and Jack Bridwell, Gazelle, Calif. .483. At 200 yd. agg.: George Hendricks, Etna, Calif. .567 m.o.a.; Speer .837; and Ray Jones, Yreka, Calif. (club bench rest executive) 1.099. In the grand agg.: Hendricks .5885, Speer .6570, and Rice .7755 m.o.a.

With Varmint Rifle, aggregate high at 100 yds. were: Dude Sattem, Roseburg, Ore. .500 m.o.a.; Rice .727; and Paul Dodge, Yreka .950. At 200 yds.: Rice .793 m.o.a., Sattem .818, and Speer .938. For the grand agg. it was: Sattem .659, Rice .760 and Speer .958 m.o.a.

Weather was reported cloudy with gusty winds and a rain squall for the first three varmint rifle matches. The match schedule is set up to provide a variety of shooting in a one day program.

BUFFALO, WYOMING

Early season activities of the Buffalo Outdoor Rifle Club include a .22 rim-fire rest match April 20th when 14 shot ten 10-shot matches at 100 yards for score on decimal smallbore targets. High aggregate scores were 994, 993 and 992.

The annual Crow Match, April 20th, shot on New Trenton crow targets for score, had 20 shooting not over 10 lb.

sporters with not over 6X scopes at 100 yards, and only 10 shooting NBRSA Varmint class rifles at 200 yards. No person won two matches at 100 yards and 4 of the 5 matches were won with possible 50 scores, the other with a 49. In two matches, all three top places went to 50 scores and two the two top places made 50 scores. At 200 yards there was only one 50 score, by Bruce Pheasant in the final match. Geo. Welch won two matches with a 49 and 47. H. Baldwin took one with a 47 and Roger Brummond the other with a 46.

In contrast with the above, at the annual registered Warm-Up Match on May 25th had a total of 8 competitors, with only 6 shooting the "Any Rifle" matches. Three matches at each 100 and 200 yards were shot with both classes of rifle. Bruce Pheasant, G. Baldwin and H. Baldwin had high Any Rifle aggregates of .577, .784 and .893 m.o.a. H. Baldwin had best Varmint Rifle agg. of .633 m.o.a., Bruce Pheasant was second with .761 m.o.a. for the 5-shot matches.

ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Unami Club of Allentown, Pa. have a bench rest program with bi-weekly matches from mid-May through October. Rifles used meet NBRSA Varmint Rifle specifications but there are two classes by caliber, one for .22 cal. centerfire and the other for 6mm and larger cal. At each match (Sunday afternoons) two 5-shot groups are fired at 100 yards on 200 yd. NBRSA targets turned upside-down with each class of rifle and smallest of the two groups count for record. Shooters may fire in both classes. It is reported that most of the baker's dozen shooters fire factory rifles but 4 or 5 shoot customized or rebarreled rifles.

Matches through June have been won with groups of .457", .451" and .328" for .22 cal. and .757", 1.028" and .384" with 6mm or larger.

ROXBURY, NEW YORK

Seven shooters had an informal shoot on Robert Smith's 5 bench Catskill Mountaineer's range at Roxbury, N. Y. The boys shot 5-shot matches at 100 and 200 yards and the minute of angle agg. ranking was: Bob Stinehour .403, Crawf Hollidge .4375, Al Gendening .472, Robt. Smith .538, Ralph Felter .544, Andy Brower .597 and Howard Smith .636—a pleasant match in a delightful scenic location.

S & W .22 AUTOMATIC WINS

When I wrote the announcement of the new Smith & Wesson .22 Automatic Pistol for the November PRECISION SHOOTING, I made the bold statement, "The guns will soon be setting new records and they can compete with the finest foreign guns at twice the price." While keeping my fingers crossed, it happened the very first time out, with only a few guns in circulation, and the dealers still with guns on back order with jobbers.

At the Tampa matches, Corporal Grant of the All-Army team used one to win the Aggregate of the .22 caliber matches. He shot an 885 for an Aggregate score that naturally topped anything fired, with over 600 real good competitors. They included last year's champion and a large number of other tough competitors.

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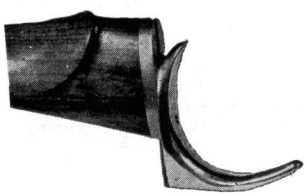

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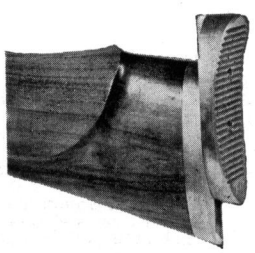

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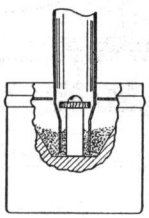

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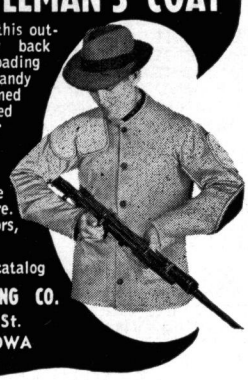

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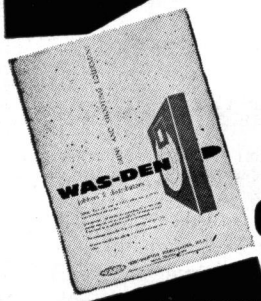

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How To Test For And Correct Parallex In Rifle Scopes

(Continued from Page Twelve)

mortar joint or other immovable spot at the exact range where the elimination of paralax is desired.

Usually 100 yards is sufficient for low power scopes but as the power increases the range becomes more critical—hence all high powered target scopes have simple means of focus so they may be adjusted for any range without tools.

Most of the low power hunting scopes will have paralax from 60 to 75 yds. and closer but for all practical purposes this will cause no trouble and is not worth the trouble of elimination. Usually these low power scopes can be focused at 100 yards and will be paralax free and sharp from 100 yards on out to infinity.

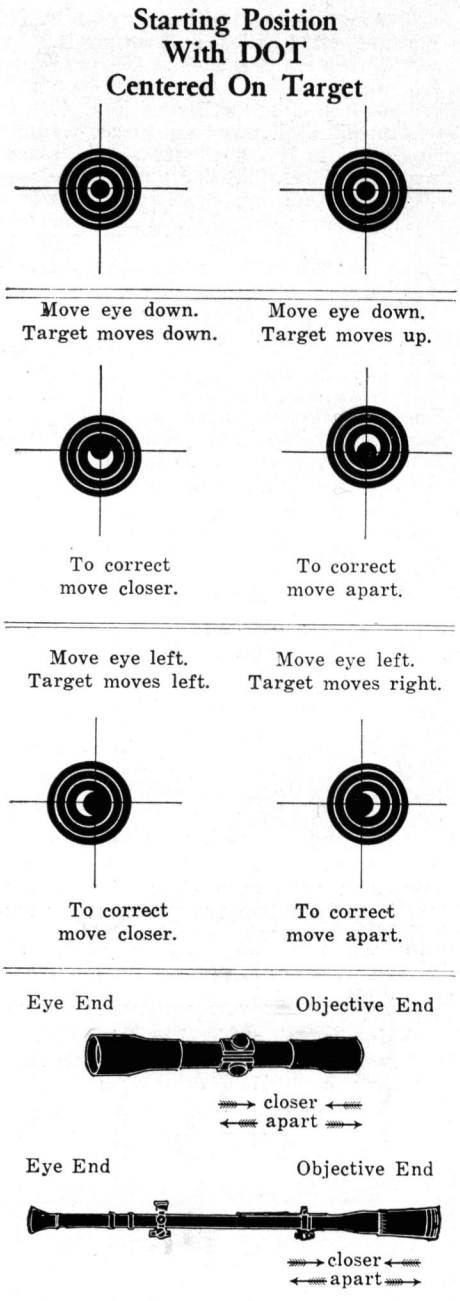
After range and test spot are decided on the scope is aimed at the spot and held in position by some suitable means so that it can be looked into without moving the scope. The scope can be tested up and down or sideways first. To test horizontally look through exact center of eye lens with the reticle lined up precisely with the test spot. Move head slowly up and down without moving so far that the field is blacked out. Usually an eighth to one quarter inch is sufficient for test purposes. If scope is paralax free no apparent movement between reticle and target will be noticed with movement of the eye.

Vertical test can be made in same manner except that the head is moved from side to side one eighth to one quarter inch. If no movement is apparent in either horizontal or vertical test the scope is paralax free at that range.

If even the slightest misplacement is perceptible in either test the scope requires adjustment for accurate shooting. Diagrams explain which way objective lens or reticle should be moved for adjustment. Scopes vary in the method of adjustment and close examination must be made to determine which, the objective or the reticle mount, is movable for adjusting. On scopes such as the low power Weaver the adjustment saddle or turret contains screws that can be loosened so the reticle assembly can be moved inside the scope to move closer or away from the objective lens. All Lyman hunting scopes have the objective lens mounted on a threaded cell that can be moved in or out of the main tube for focusing. Usually one or the other, the objective or the reticle assembly, is movable, however, some of the foreign scopes such as Zeiss and Hensoldt have no means of focus and must be machined to move the lens. Most target scopes have means for moving the objective with the hands by turning graduated sleeves at the objective end. Fecker target scopes are focused by a sleeve midway the main scope tube.

Adjusting for paralax elimination is a precise operation and should be done slowly and with caution not to overdo it. The adjustment can be carried too far and will result in more paralax than with original setting. If this happens consult diagram and proceed again slowly in the opposite direction, until the exact setting is found where there is no movement between the target and the reticle. Tighten all screws or lock rings and recheck for paralax.

When adjustments have been made that eliminate all paralax, refocus eye lens on reticle to suit the individual eye. If all paralax is removed and reticle is sharp no further adjustments can be made to improve the focus of the scope. When objective is set at the point of no paralax it is at its best focus. Further adjustment of objective or reticle will not improve the focus.



Paralax can not be removed by changing focus of eye lens. The best method of obtaining proper eye lens focus is to look through scope at the sky with eye in normal relaxed condition. To prevent the eye accommodating to a bad focus do not attempt to look through scope for longer than several seconds at a time, until proper setting is achieved.

Something to remember—There are only two ways the lens or reticle can be moved to eliminate paralax and one of them is the wrong way. If you move the wrong way first the other way has to be the right way.

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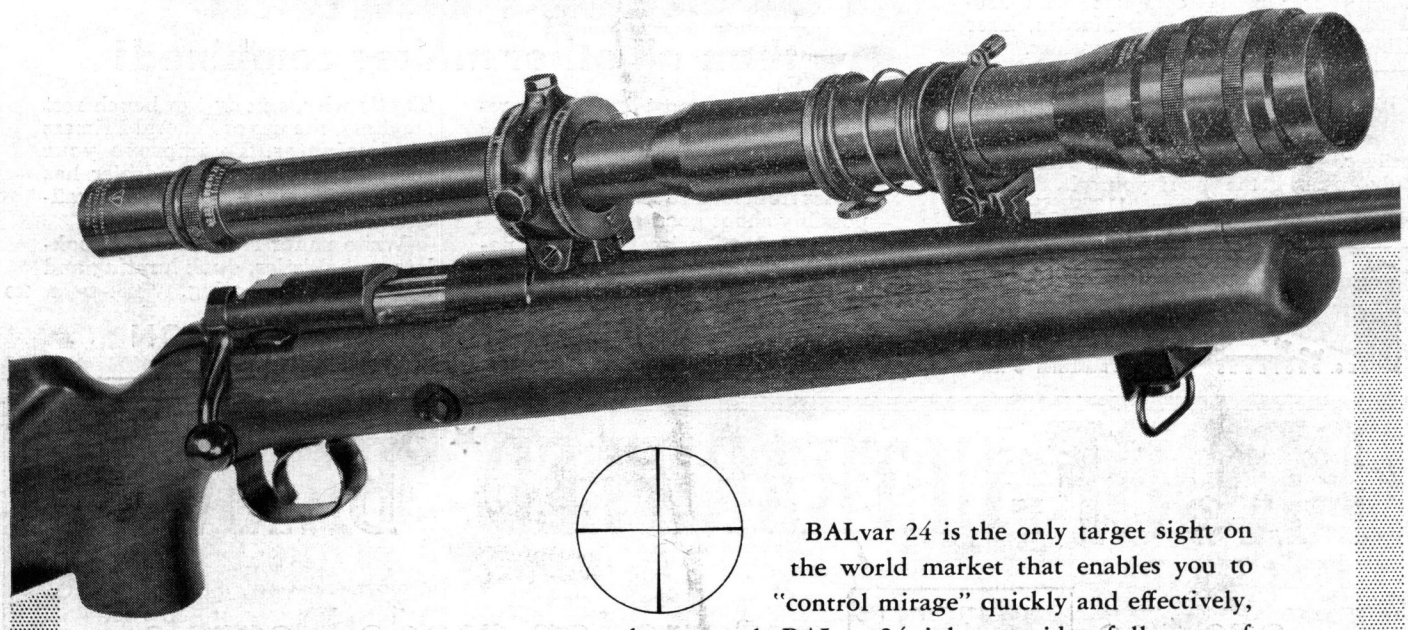

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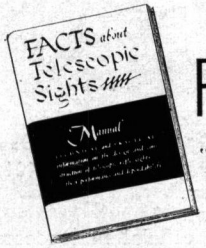

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